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FINAL VICTORY IN WAR IS AIM OF RULE AID POLITICAL BODY LAUNCHED AT HISTORIC MEET

Is Realization of Desire On Part of Nation's 100 Million People

ABE ELECTED ITS HEAD

Godo Makes Pledge on Behalf Of 932 Members to Work In Perfect Harmony

The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, whose mission is to assist in the construction of the type of political structure believed necessary to carry the nation through the current war, was inaugurated on Wednesday.

An epoch making event, it made possible the realization of the desire on the part of the nation's 100,000,000 people to see the nation's political power concentrated on the task of bringing the war to a victorious conclusion, a desire which was manifested by the general election last April 30.

Victory Is Goal

The association will set itself to bringing about a political structure strong enough to enable the country to march on to final victory in collaboration with the Government and the Imperial Rule Assistance Association. The latter association henceforth will concentrate on the important task of getting the people into an attitude of mind to permit them by carry on the struggle until America and Britain are brought to their knees.

The historic inauguration meeting of the Rule Aid political association was held at the Greater East Asia Hall in Marunouchi.

An atmosphere, animated and vigorous to a remarkable degree, prevailed in the spacious room on the third floor of the large building with nearly 1,000 personalities, all leaders in political, press, financial, business, agricultural, and other circles in the country present.

As guests, Premier General Hideki Tojo, and all Cabinet members, excepting Navy Minister Shigetaro Shimada, were present.

The proceedings started at 11:10 a.m.

Following the usual formalities, Tatsunosuke Yamazaki, member of the House of Representatives, and former Agriculture and Forestry Minister, explained the circumstances of the organization of the Rule Aid political association.

Then he submitted the rules, platform, and declaration of the organization. These were adopted at the end of a brief discussion.

Here Masatsune Ogura, former Finance Minister, who was in the chair, proposed that General Nobuyuki Abe, new member of the House of Peers by Imperial appointment, be made president of the Rule Aid political association.

The proposal met with the unanimous approval of the entire assemblage.

Abe Explains Mission

Then came General Abe's address, the best part of which dealt with the mission of the new political association.

A response was made by Vice-Admiral Takuo Godo, former Commerce and Industry Minister. Speaking on behalf of the members of the association, he pledged them to work energetically for an Imperial rule assistance political structure under General Abe's leadership.

General Abe, as president of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, named managers of the association.

Then the Premier's congratulatory address came. He spoke in his dual capacity of head of the Government and president of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

Shouting of banzai for His Majesty the Emperor by all present brought the historic meeting to a close shortly before noon.

The attendants were entertained to a cold collation.

Following is the gist of General Abe's speech:

"I was told by Premier General Hideki Tojo on May 7 that it was desirable to concentrate the political power of the nation in full unison so as to ensure the Diet system in the light of national service and to accelerate prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia by strengthening the unity of the people, taking advantage of the favorable result of the historic general election.

Requested by Tojo

"I was requested by him to make efforts for materialization of the desire. Besides the Government's desire for such purpose, there has been gaining strength for a long period a similar desire among the 100,000,000 people. Nonetheless, this desire has been prolonged up to the present owing to various circumstances. This desire of the people has been fully demonstrated in the result of the recent general election.

"Needless to say, it is an urgent necessity for us to combine reasonably the Government request and the desire of the people on a political basis, so as to concentrate the political power of the nation in a single form. Careful study was made on the actual methods for this purpose.

"Thanks to earnest efforts by the advocates and others, the plan has taken concrete shape by formulation of the constitution of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association and its platform and declaration in a short space of time. It is a matter for mutual congratulation that the association has been formally established with due ceremony.

"It is believed that all members of the organ fully understand its mission through the constitution, platform and declaration. I wish herewith to express my belief thereanent in brief.

"The mission of the newly-organized body is to enhance the lofty ideal whereby the Empire has been founded in perfect unison of the 100,000,000 people and to perfect the way for national service.

"For this purpose, it is of urgent necessity to set up a new system in such a manner as to concentrate the political power of the nation in an adequate form peculiar to the Empire.

"The newly-organized Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association is different from the old political parties in this country and others in foreign countries which are in existence on the principle of 'one political party in a country' in the point that the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association is a political organization peculiar to the Empire. In this sense it is also necessary to operate it in a manner based on a new ideal.

"In detail, the old political parties were nothing but political groups organized under the banner of their respective policies or platforms. On the contrary the new organ has not been formed for such a purpose but for concentration of the political power of the nation.

For Serving State

"In short, the formation of the new organ is nothing but the outcome of the national desire for concentration of the political power of the nation and loyalty in serving the State.

"In reviewing the situation developing in East Asia, it can be said that establishment of a high-grade national defense state must be realized on the basis of the great ideal whereby the Empire has been founded.

"In order to achieve the lofty objective of this historic ideal, a system for political cooperation of the nation must be organized on the basis of the political originality of the people, and every possible effort must be made for this purpose.

"In other words, the new organ has no other intention than to ensure the guiding principle for establishment of a new order by accelerating establishment of the projected East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and by prosecuting the War of Greater East Asia and to concentrate the political power of the nation in the light of the Imperial Constitution.

"The success or failure of the great task of assisting the Throne in the conduct of state affairs depends much upon systematical cooperation to be made by the people through their respective vocations.

"Such being the circumstances, the newly-organized political body should play an important role in full cooperation with the Imperial Rule Assistance Association in strengthening the foundation of the Empire by showing the essence of national service and fully observing the spirit of correct national politics."

Vice-Admiral Godo, responding to General Abe's address accepting the presidency of the association, emphasized the strong determination of the members of the organization to measure up to the expectations of the people by fulfilling their important mission of assisting in the construction of an Imperial rule assistance political structure.

Godo Urges Harmony

Vice Admiral Godo declared: "The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association has been organized to meet the inevitable request of the nation for the satisfactory execution of the War of Greater East Asia.

"We should strongly remember that the association is fundamentally different from political groups in the past; it is the crystallization of the entire political power of the nation. Therefore, needless to say,

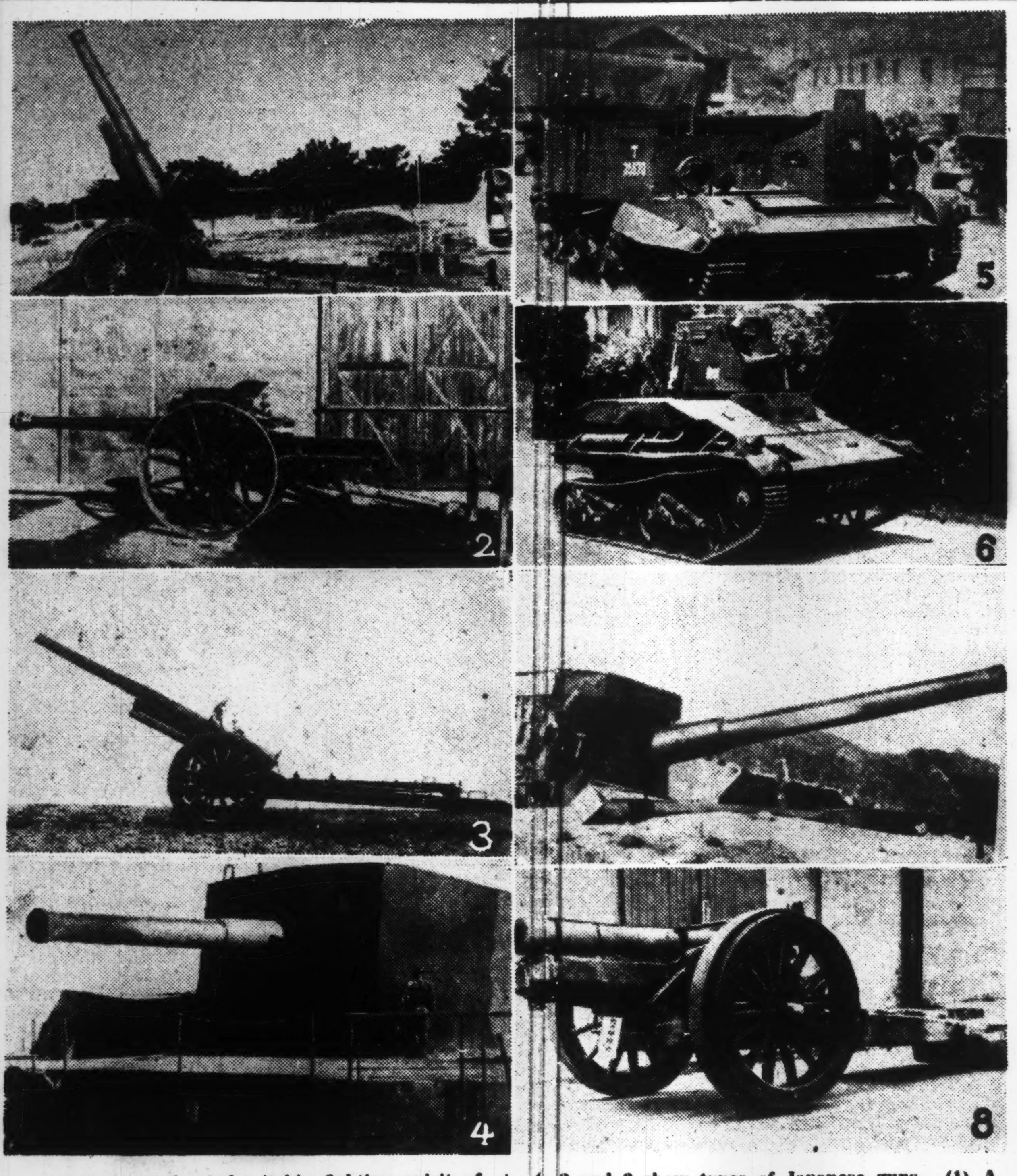
(Continued on Page 2)

Japanese Aircraft Hit Moresby Again, Says Enemy Report

Domei

LISBON, May 19.—Headquarters of the Anti-Axis Forces in the Southwest Pacific announced that formations of Japanese fighters and bombers today carried out a large-scale raid on Port Moresby, New Guinea, according to a Melbourne dispatch received here.

Guns and Tanks: Japanese and Enemy



Apart from the indomitable fighting spirit of the officers and men of the Imperial Forces, the excellent quality of their guns and equipment is playing a large role in their brilliant successes on all fronts (see story on this page). Experts have carefully compared captured enemy guns, tanks and other equipment with the weapons made in Japan and found that in every respect the home products are far superior. In the photos above, Japanese and enemy weapons are shown. Numbers 1, 2 and 3 show types of Japanese guns. (1) A 15-centimeter Howitzer. (2) Field gun. (3) A 10-centimeter Canet gun. (4) An enemy 24-inch cannon mounted on a fort for use against warships. (5) A British Bren gun carrier with armored trailer. (6) A British Vickers light tank. (7) An enemy Raymond 15-inch cannon mounted on a fort. (8) An enemy 6-inch Howitzer. (Presented by War Ministry).

TOJO STRESSES TASK OF THRONE AID BODY

In Congratulatory Address, Premier Warns Real War Is Ahead of Nation

PROMISES COOPERATION

Avers Consolidation of Nation's Political Power Is One of Most Urgent Needs

A real war is ahead of the nation, and it will be a long time before America and Britain can be crushed.

This warning was given by Premier Hideki Tojo in the course of an address he made Tuesday at the inaugural meeting of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association.

Premier Tojo noted with satisfaction the fact that the results of the April general election left no doubt that the 100,000,000 people of Japan are keen on the concentration of the nation's political power to make it possible for the country to fight to a finish the War of Greater East Asia.

Tojo Confident of Success

He expressed his conviction that the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, which has the support of all the nation's leaders, gives the promise of a speedy realization of the sort of political structure which would permit of such concentration of the nation's political power as is fervently desired by the people.

He gave voice to the determination of the Government not to fall short of measuring up to the expectations of the people which were disclosed by the results of the general election.

Premier Tojo closed by expressing hope of seeing the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association collaborate closely with the Government and the Imperial Rule Assistance Association in the work of establishing an Imperial rule assistance political structure, which is absolutely necessary to win a complete victory in the Greater East Asia War.

The Premier's congratulatory address in substance follows:

"The recent general election which was carried out in the midst of the conduct of the War of Greater East Asia more than amply

(Continued on Page 2)

Another U.S. Vessel Sunk in Caribbean By Nazi Submarine

Domei

BERLIN, May 19.—A 6,000-ton American freighter has been sunk by a Nazi submarine in the Caribbean Sea, the German News Agency learned today from German military sources. The vessel had been en route to Richmond, Virginia, from a certain port in Central America, D.N.B. disclosed.

SURABAYA PROSPERITY SEEN

Domei

SURABAYA, May 20.—With various damaged harbor facilities almost completely repaired by the Japanese Army and Navy Forces, and reconstruction work of Surabaya port entering a new stage, the return of prosperity to the port is expected in the near future.

More than 10 enemy warships and vessels which had been sunk in the harbor are now being removed by the Japanese salvage corps.

Foreign News Spotlight

Exclusive Flashes

DAVIES BLAMES CHURCHILL FOR REVERSES

LISBON, May 20.—During the debate on the war situation, Thomas Davies, a member of the House of Commons, said that no one will blame any Minister for reverses suffered by the British forces, but emphatically pointed out that Prime Minister Winston Churchill should be held for the war responsibility.

AUSTRALIAN WORKERS SUFFER WHILE THE RICH HOARD CLOTHES

STOCKHOLM, May 20.—A member of the Western Australian Opposition today severely complained because the wealthy people are buying up clothes while the workers simply have no chance at all of buying. The Minister of War Organization replied that the Government will restrict sales to conserve stocks.

SHORTAGE OF AMERICAN SHIP BOTTOMS DISCLOSED

STOCKHOLM, May 20.—The Chairman of the Senate Defense Committee of the United States Congress stressed today that the shipping condition is such that it is impossible to transport military equipment even if they were produced on the outlined basis.

U.S. MAY DISCONTINUE BATTLESHIP CONSTRUCTION

STOCKHOLM, May 20.—Loss of tonnage is rapidly mounting, particularly after December, 1941, it was admitted in Washington today. This, coupled with the acute shortage of steel, has created a serious problem, and it is rumored in Washington that the Government may discontinue building battleships temporarily in order to allocate more steel for cargo ship construction.

SITUATION GRAVE, ADMITS CHUNGKING SPOKESMAN

LISBON, May 20.—During a press conference this afternoon, Dr. T. F. Chiang, speaking in the capacity of Chungking spokesman, declared that China needs all the help which the Allies can give and needs it with utmost haste; otherwise, the United Nations will have to pay double or even triple the price for future recovery. In issuing this impatient appeal, the spokesman stressed that the immediate future for China is unprecedentedly grave.

SUPERIOR ARMS, AMMUNITION EMPLOYED BY NIPPON FORCES LAUDED BY ORDNANCE EXPERT

Weapons Used by Americans and British in Southern Regions Behind Time—Enemy Equipment Ineffective, Comparison Reveals

QUALITY AND QUANTITY IMPORTANT IN WAR

The overwhelming victories of the Imperial Forces is no doubt attributable to the excellent strategy and to the indomitable spirit of the picked Japanese troops, but it must be remembered at the same time that these gallant officers and men had at their disposal arms and ammunition of a superior efficiency, it was disclosed by an authority of the Army Ordnance Bureau on Tuesday.

The statement, which compares the arms used by the Japanese Forces in the southern operations with those of the enemy, is to the following effect:

"We should like, first of all, to testify the superiority in efficiency of the Japanese arms by comparing them with those used by the enemy.

"It was the general presumption of the authorities, through investigations conducted during peacetime, that the arms of American and British forces, particularly in the Southern Regions, were never superior to those of the Japanese Forces. When the actual fighting took place, the result in no way ran contrary to this expectation.

"It is true that the Anglo-American nations were victorious in the first World War, but the greatest defect of victorious nations as a rule is their subsequent lack of study in improving arms. The two countries were no exception to the rule, and since the Armistice, they were by no means enthusiastic over research work in this connection.

"Needless to say, some of their weapons was improved but it was hardly possible for them to substitute their vast stock of arms entirely with the new ones. Replacement was particularly impossible in the colonial regions.

Allies' Stock Old

"Consequently, the major part of the principal arms of America and Britain in Malaya and the Philippines consisted of types similar to those used during the first World War, with slight improvements. In fact, some were made even before the World War, the only modern weapons having been the anti-tank guns and the high-angle guns.

"On the other hand, the chief arms employed by the Japanese Forces, frankly speaking, comprised practically all those which were produced within the past decade so that there was a difference of some ten to twenty years with the Anglo-American arms.

"This is the crystallization of strenuous efforts exerted by the Japanese Army to keep in pace with the arms progress as a result of the World War, especially because it participated in that war only in occupying Tsingtao. During the disarmament period, those connected with the arms research work silently strived to improve the ordnance.

"Another factor that contributed greatly toward the arms improvement was the role played by the ordnance industry of Japan which, thanks to untiring researches, managed to supply the rapidly expanding military preparations since the Manchurian Incident, and particularly after the outbreak of the China Affair.

"The British army proper is using a light machine gun called the Bren gun which is more or less modernistic, but in the southern fronts, many Lewis light machine guns of the 1915 type were used. Since the light machine gun is carried by one man, a weapon of light weight is demanded, but one Lewis machine gun weighs approximately 15 kilograms, which is about fifty per cent heavier than the Japanese light machine gun of the 96-type. Even the Bren guns weigh more than 10 kilograms.

Absolutely No Comparison

"The heavy machine guns used by the Anglo-American forces were also the types used during the World War, and they were absolutely no comparison to the Japanese 92-type heavy machine gun.

"Most of the field guns employed by America and Britain were likewise old, some having been made in 1904. Specimens are currently on display in front of the Military Museum. Then there is the 8.38 caliber field-gun known as the 18-pound gun, but it is not too up-to-date.

"This type was made after the World War and was gradually improved or equipped with rubber tyres to be used by the mechanized corps, but the maximum firing range never exceeds 10,000 meters.

"Every category of Japanese field gun has a maximum range of over 10,000 meters, but particularly outstanding in efficiency is the mobile field gun, the range of which is 15,000 meters so that it is absolutely impossible for the enemy, equipped with its 8.38 guns to hope to engage successfully in an artillery duel.

"The field guns of the American-Filipino troops are also old fashioned since they are the ones transferred to the United States by Britain and France in order that America could participate in the war in 1917. Slight improvements, of course, were made.

"With reference to the 10-millimeter and 15 millimeter Canet guns, the British army had 12.7 millimeter and 15.24 millimeter caliber howitzers which were respectively the 1909 and 1917 types.

"Range is the life-line of Canet guns and currently, the 12-millimeter class gun should have a maximum range of at least 20,000 meters but those used by the British army had a range of only 14,000 meters. The Japanese 10-millimeter Canet gun, despite the fact that the calibre is smaller, is capable of reaching a maximum distance of nearly 20,000 meters.

Poor Range

"The maximum range of the British 15-millimeter howitzer is 9,100 meters whereas that of all 15-millimeter howitzers is over 10,000 meters.

"Not only did the Japanese guns surpass the enemy's in point of range, but construction was also superior. For example, the Japanese guns, apart from being equipped with special devices on the carriage, are constructed comparatively lighter though the efficiency is much greater which facilitates operation considerably. In reducing the weight of the arms, the Japanese technicians have had to undergo many painstaking researches.

"It seems that the American-Filipino army possessed Canet guns of the 15-millimeter class, but they were also copied from guns they obtained from France during the World War and the maximum range was but 16,000 meters, far inferior to that of the Japanese gun of the same class.

"There are indications that Hongkong and Singapore were equipped with various heavy guns of over the 20-millimeter class, but they were all destroyed by the Japanese shells.

"The permanently installed guns at fortresses invariably have the edge over the field guns, but the fact that those belonging to the enemy were easily smashed by Japanese shells vividly reveals the efficiency of the mighty Japanese heavy artillery batteries.

Details Kept Secret

"Special mention should be made of the new weapon used in the siege of Singapore. A special decoration was given to the Army technician who invented this new arm, but it is to my regret that I cannot disclose details in this connection."

"Next let me tell you something about mechanized arms. It was as we thought. The British forces in Malaya did not have anything that could be called tanks. What they had was the so-called Bren gun carrier which is a small armored vehicle equipped with a Bren gun. The British seemed to have several hundreds of these. Each of these peculiar "tanks" weighed about two tons and accommodates four persons. Besides, each is equipped with a machine-gun or a 13-millimeter anti-tank gun and covered with armor about 9-millimeter thick. Thus it is nothing more than a sort of armored car to be used for subjugating bandits armed with rifles or machine-guns.

"With these tanks pitted against the modern light tanks and medium tanks of the Japanese Forces, it is no wonder that the former were no match against these modern mechanized arms of the Japanese Forces.

"Compared with the British forces in Malaya, the Philippine forces possessed of more of what could be called a tank. The American troops were equipped with light tanks each weighing about 13 tons. This light tank was equal to the medium tank in point of weight. It was equipped with 4 machine-guns in addition to a 37-centimeter gun, and its turret was covered with armor thick enough to stand 37-millimeter anti-tank gun fire.

Often Turns Turtle

"What characterized it as being an American product was its engine which was in the shape of a star, the superior quality of the gasoline used as well as the caterpillars in which were crammed rubber so as

(Continued on Page 2)

F.I.C. EXPERT LAUDS JAPANESE STRATEGY

Says Great Burma Operation Will Mark New Page in World History

ENEMY TOTALLY WIPED OUT

Large Encirclement Move at Lashio, Mandalay Highly Praised

Domei

SAIGON, May 20.—Commenting upon the annihilating blow dealt by the Japanese to the British forces in the vicinity of Kalewa, about 250 kilometers northwest of Mandalay, along the Chindwin River, which has brought the battle of crushing the Anglo-Chiang combined forces to a denouement, an undisclosed military expert in French Indo-China today highly lauded the intrepidity of the Japanese Forces and clever strategy of their commanders.

Declaring that the battle in the vicinity of Kalewa has wiped out the combined enemy troops, the military expert who is thoroughly conversant with the topography of the northwestern sector of Burma, spoke as follows:

"The superiority of the Japanese Command, its strategy and the intrepidity of the Japanese officers and men deployed in the Burmese battle have caused the world to fully recognize the strength of the Imperial Forces. The Anglo-Chiang combined forces were placed at the mercy of the Japanese, and were compelled to beat a series of retreats until they were finally wiped out.

"Especially, the large encirclement move made by the Japanese around the British and Chiang forces at Lashio and Mandalay, as well as the annihilating battle of Kalewa, should mark a new page in the world's history of strategical warfare. The Japanese Forces cleverly utilized the topography of Burma into their strategy and hammered the Anglo-Chiang forces to a finish. This was only achieved through the superiority of the Japanese Command and the bravery of the Japanese officers and men.

"The Chindwin River valley is hemmed in by the Patkai Ranges, thus forming a cul-de-sac and the road leading to India is so narrow that it is only traversible by cavalry, operations by mechanized forces in this sector being out of the question. The British knew the disadvantage that would be involved if they fled into this sector, but were nevertheless driven into this blind alley and annihilated.

"The fact that the Anglo-Indian forces abandoned 2,000 automobiles, over 150 tanks, and several hundreds of guns clearly shows that they had to throw away all arms and ammunition in order to take flight into the Patkai Ranges," the military expert said.

DUCE PRAISES ITALIAN PEOPLE'S WAR EFFORTS

Tells Fascist Grand Council Of Wholehearted Cooperation Being Given

Domei

ROME, May 19.—Premier Benito Mussolini stressed the fact that the Italian people are extending their wholehearted cooperation in the execution of war, at a meeting of the Fascist Grand Council held at the Venezia Palace today.

Speaking of what he saw during his recent tour of Sardinia, Il Duce stated that the masses firmly believe in victory and are extending their wholehearted support to the Fascist Party.

He next stressed the following two points: 1. That the total amount of subscription for the wartime national bonds has exceeded 4,000,000,000 lire, showing the earnest cooperation on the part of the nation toward the execution of the war.

2. The result of the movement for donation of wool of the fighting forces at the front, which was completed on May 15, has proven that the nation well understands the meaning of war and is giving its ardent support to the soldiers at the front.

The meeting is scheduled to be resumed tomorrow.

Suma Sees Suner

Domei

MADRID, May 19.—Yakichiro Suma, Japanese Minister to Spain, today called on General Ramon Serano Suner, Spanish Foreign Minister, for a conference.

SEVERE BATTLE ON IN KHARKOV SECTOR

Soviet Batteries in Orel Front Completely Silenced by German Drive

Domei

BERLIN, May 19.—The fierce battle raging in the Kharkov sector of the Soviet-German front, is increasing in intensity as the Soviets have sent large reinforcements to the front line yesterday, according to reports received by the German News Agency here today.

Although the Soviets have succeeded in breaking through the German line of offense in a few isolated spots, they were eventually repulsed by the German forces, the reports said.

Soviet Batteries Silenced

On the front line to the southeast of Orel, the Soviets opened up with a terrific cannonading, but the Soviet batteries were shortly silenced by a large-scale German onslaught, D.N.B. revealed.

In the central sector the German forces staged strong attacks on Soviet armament transportation corps and succeeded in demolishing 400 trucks and other transport vehicles, the report said.

On the northern front to the southeast of Lake Ilmen German air units staged successful bombardments on bridges, while northeast of the lake several Soviet planes were demolished on the ground, the news agency reported.

The annihilation of the remaining enemy on the Kerch Peninsula is about to be concluded, the German High Command announced today.

The German air force yesterday raided the harbor in Murmansk, destroying harbor installations and shooting down 45 enemy planes in air duels over the port, the High Command said.

80 Panzers Wrecked

On the Kharkov area, 80 panzers were put out of action during a mass attack by the enemy yesterday, the communique said. An additional 31 panzers and over 500 vehicles of various types were said to have been destroyed by the Luftwaffe, bringing the total to 447 panzers destroyed in the Kharkov area since the war started.

A large enemy freighter was badly crippled by direct bomb hit in Kola waters, and is believed to have sunk the communique added.

In the Mediterranean, German and Italian aircraft reportedly shot down five British planes in dog fights over Malta.

Tojo Stresses Task Of Throne Aid Body

(Continued From Page 1)

proved to the world the great enthusiasm of the entire people to bring the War of Greater East Asia to a successful conclusion. At the same time, it laid a firm foundation for the establishment of a fresh and powerful Diet.

"At this juncture, it is not only the most earnest desire of the entire people of Japan to realize centralization and consolidation of the political power of the nation with the fullest support of the entire people for the sole object of consummating the War of Greater East Asia but it is also one of the most urgent problems of the moment.

Meets People's Desire

"It is certainly a source of great pleasure to note for the future prosperity of the nation that, as a result of the efforts of the leaders of both Houses and leaders of all walks of life, the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association should have been so successfully organized, for it certainly answers both the national requirements and the enthusiastic desire of the people.

"Only five months have gone by since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, but, thanks to the August Virtue of His Majesty the Emperor, and to the valor and bravery of our officers and men, we have been able during that very short period of time to score brilliant victories on all fronts, to the dismay and astonishment of the entire world. And already constructive work on a large-scale is being pushed forward throughout Greater East Asia.

"However, needless to say; it will be necessary for us to exert our greatest efforts before we shall be able to crush thoroughly the influence of Britain and the United States which, with their vast territories, have been monopolizing the wealth of the entire world. It is to be taken for granted that, in their desperate efforts to resist our attacks, they will resort to all sorts of chicanery trusting to whatever slender chances there may be. In fact, the war has just started.

"At this juncture, what is most demanded of us is the complete unity of the entire nation in a dauntless spirit, and the spirit to serve the cause of the nation from each one's vocational field.

"With the formation of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association some time ago, both the Government officials and the people have been exerting efforts for the Throne-aid campaign. In addition to this, under exactly the same motive and aspirations as those of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association the new Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association has been successfully brought into being, as a result of which the first step toward realization of centralization and consolidation of political power of the nation has been made, which can only be regarded as the crystallization of the firm determination of the people to conform to this national need.

"In this manner, the burning desire of the entire people, which has been evinced on all occasions since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, especially in the recent general election, and the most earnest desire of the people for centralization of political power has been brought to fruition.

Unflinchingly Determined

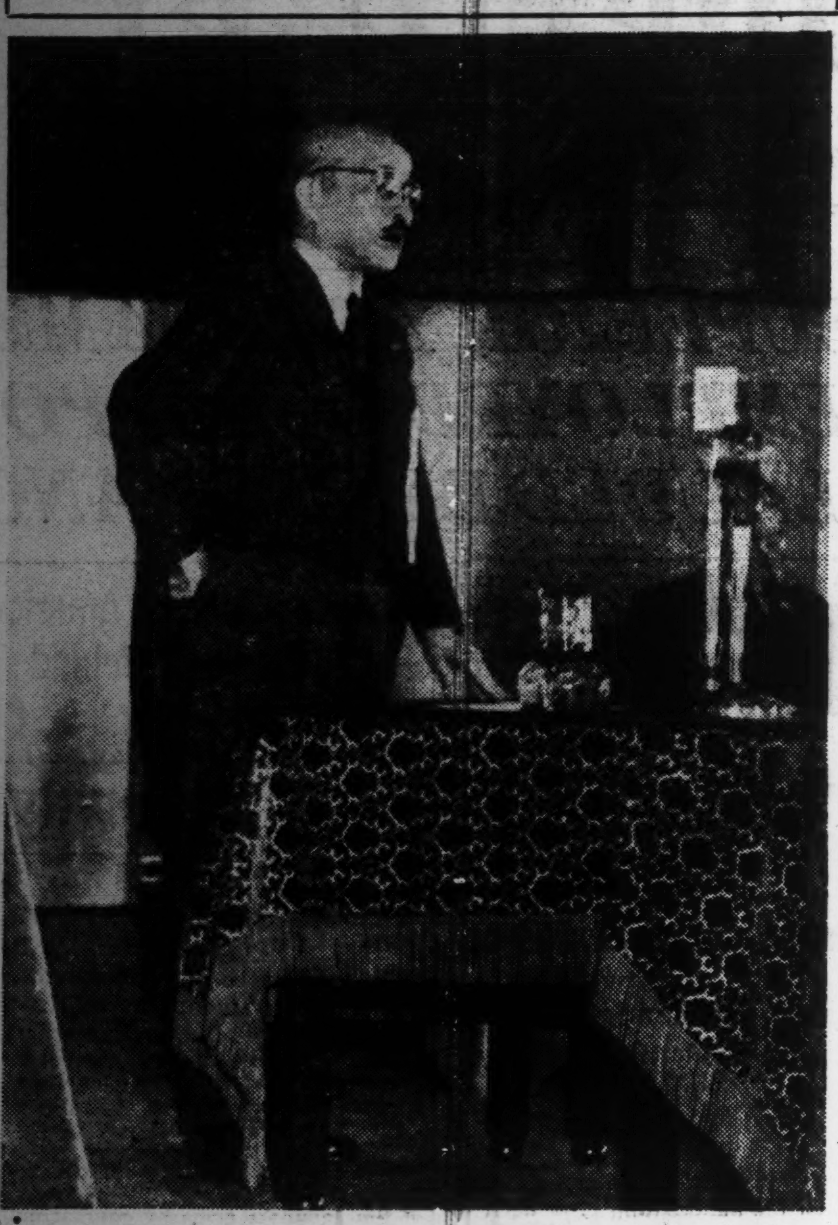
"At the same time, the Government is unflinchingly determined to proceed with the consummation of the War of Greater East Asia, relying fully upon the wholehearted support of the entire people and to respond to this earnest desire of the people with the ultimate object of complying with the wishes of our August Emperor.

"On the other hand, by effecting reform of the structure of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, it has decided to continue to act as the driving force of the Throne-aid movement throughout the nation and for the dissemination of the idea of the practice of the Ways of Subjects, thus making clear the sphere of its activities.

"In consideration of the heavy responsibility of the newly-organized Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, it is to be earnestly hoped that the new association will courageously proceed with the work of centralization and consolidation of the political power of the nation for building up a political structure that will permit the consummation of the War of Greater East Asia to a successful conclusion in accordance with the political platform declared by the association.

"In congratulating the formation of the new political association, permit me to express my great hopes in the future of the association and my wishes for its sound and healthy growth."

Premier Pledges Cooperation



In one of his rare appearances in morning coat, Premier General Hideki Tojo is shown in the photo making his congratulatory address at the inaugural meeting of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association on Wednesday. He promised the Government's fullest cooperation in the new organization's mission toward consolidating the nation's political power for the purpose of ensuring victory for Japan in the War of Greater East Asia.

Today's Press Comments

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1942

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Japan Times and Advertiser.)

Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association Formed

NICHI NICHI—The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association has been organized. Discussing the association in his address at the inaugural meeting of the association on Tuesday, Premier General Hideki Tojo said that the Government expected the organization to cooperate with the Imperial Rule Assistance Association in the concentration of the nation's political power in a manner which would permit the nation to win a complete victory in the war.

There is no doubt that the association will be a purely political organization based on the assistance of the people. It remains to be seen what the association will do to persons who have declined to become its members.

All the people are agreed about the Government's policy of fighting the war to a finish. The very fact that there are political organizations in the country in addition to the Throne Aid political association suggests that there are persons whose views about details of the question of fighting the war to a finish are different from those of the Throne Aid political association. We hope that the association will try to benefit by those views.

Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association

ASAHI—The characteristic of the newly created Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association lies in the fact that it has done away with the old factional theory in favor of the peculiar Japanese character.

As denoted in its general principles and clarified again in an address by General Nobuyuki Abe, the President, it is completely different from political parties which, more or less, objected deliberately to the proposals of the Government. On the contrary, the aim of the new political structure is to accord voluntary cooperation to the Government and to exert an all-out effort in prosecuting the affairs of the State most thoroughly and appropriately.

On the other hand, however, it is not the mission of the new body to agree with every proposal of the Government but rather, to inject the originality of the people into the policies to be established by the Government so as to enable the fulfilment of the gigantic task of aiding the Throne. In order to realize a successful consummation of the War of Greater East Asia, it was essential to create a combined body representing the total national strength.

Let us congratulate the glorious start which was made by the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, and at the same time, hope that it will exercise every possible effort in fulfilling the weighty mission so significantly imposed on it.

Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association

CHUGAI SHOGYO—The preparations that were being made for the proposed organization of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association were completed at the general meeting for its organization held on Wednesday, thereby actually bringing into being the association on the same day. Not only has the advent of this association an epoch-making significance in the constitutional history of Japan but, with the virtual concentration of the national political force into one solid unity, it also serves to arrest world-wide attention to the adamant and unchanging national wartime structure of Japan which is indispensable for the successful prosecution of the current War of Greater East Asia.

That there was no hitch in the speedy organization of the Association is evidently owing to the fact that all the people realized the urgent need of such an efficient body in order to carry out the gigantic programs of the Government for bringing the war to a successful conclusion.

The purpose with which the association was organized is self-explanatory. Its membership is composed principally of the members of the Upper and Lower Houses, and therefore it goes without saying that it will have a considerable influence in the functions of the Diet in the future. It is hoped that the members of the association, particularly its officers, will exert their utmost in achieving the mission on which it has set out.

New Political Force

MIYAKO—The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association has emerged impressively. Almost all important men of both the House of Peers and House of Representatives as well as representatives of various circles are its promoters. The organization naturally consists of representatives from all walks of life. It is a crystallization of the whole national will. Successful completion of the War of Greater East Asia and construction of Greater East Asia require such an organization. If this Association makes headway, Greater East Asia can surely be built up with success and a new world order consolidated. General

FINAL VICTORY AIM OF RULE AID BODY

(Continued From Page 1)

first of all we should make all efforts for perfect harmony among all members, entirely removing the sense of party rivalry which hitherto existed."

In conclusion, Vice-Admiral Godo declared that in view of the important nature of the new political body, all precautions should be taken in its future activities.

The following 29 persons were appointed directors of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association by President Abe:

Baron Michimoto Iwakura, member of the House of Peers; Tadaatsu Ishiguro, member of the House of Peers and former Agriculture and Forestry Minister; Sotaro Ishiwata, member of the House of Peers and former Finance Minister; Toratаro Ushizuka, member of the House of Representatives and former Tokyo mayor; Ryusaku Endo, member of the House of Peers and former Chief Secretary of the Cabinet; Tadahiko Okada, member of the House of Representatives; Tadao Oasa, member of the House of Representatives; Kozo Ota, member of the House of Peers and former Chief Secretary of the Cabinet; Dr. Masataka Ota, member of the House of Representatives; Viscount Nagakage Okabe, member of the House of Peers; Masanori Katsu, member of the House of Representatives and former Communications Minister; Tsuneo Kanemitsu, member of the House of Representatives and former Welfare Minister; Dr. Ichiro Kiyose, member of the House of Representatives; General Kuniaki Koiso, former Overseas Minister; Fumio Goto, member of the House of Peers and Director-General of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association; Vice-Admiral Takuo Godo, member of the House of Peers and former Commerce and Industry Minister; Colonel Junichiro Kobayashi, former director of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association; Count Tadamasa Sakai, member of the House of Peers and former Agriculture and Forestry Minister; Toshio Shiratori, member of the House of Representatives and former Ambassador to Rome; Admiral Nobumasa Suetsugu, former Home Minister and former President of the Central Cooperative Council of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association; Kotaro Sengoku, member of the House of Peers and President of the Central Union of Cooperative Societies; Masao Taki, member of the House of Peers and former President of the Planning Board; Tokichi Tanaka, President of the Japan Newspaper Society; Ryutaro Nagai, member of the House of Representatives and former Communications Minister; Colonel Kingoro Hashimoto, member of the House of Representatives and President of the Sekiseikai organization; Aiichiro Fujiyama, President of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Yonezo Maeda, member of the House of Peers and former Railway Minister; Tatsunosuke Yamazaki, member of the House of Representatives and former Agriculture and Forestry Minister; and Sukenari Yokoyama, member of the House of Peers and former Director-General of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

The first meeting of these directors was held at the Greater East Asia Hall at 3:30 p.m. on the same day and discussion was held on the proposed organization of a Diet Council of the new Association and other important affairs.

All State Ministers excluding the War and Navy Ministers have become members of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association with the participation of Shigenori Togo, Foreign Minister, Michiyo Iwamura, Justice Minister, Lieutenant-General Chikahiko Koizumi, Welfare Minister, Kunihiko Hashida, Education Minister, Vice-Admiral Ken Terashima, Communications Minister, and Michio Yuzawa, Home Minister.

Okinori Kaya, Finance Minister, Nobusuke Kishi, Commerce and Industry Minister, Hiroya Ino, Agriculture and Forestry Minister, and Yoshiaki Hatta, Railway Minister, were among the promoters of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association.

The total membership of the Imperial Rule Political Association includes 932 persons.

Of this total, 77 were sponsors and six are Cabinet members, while 849 of the 961 persons who received invitations to join the new body definitely have accepted, it was said. Twenty-three of those who received invitations declined to accept while 89 still have not yet sent in their replies.

In this respect the acceptance or refusal to become members of the Association of the members of the now defunct Dokokai, headed by Ichiro Hatoyama, is being watched with interest.

The declaration adopted by the meeting was in substance to the following effect:

"The objective of the War of Greater East Asia, as will be clear from the Imperial Rescript declaring war on America and Britain, is to stabilize conditions in East Asia as a means of contributing toward world peace.

"The Empire, in the midst of a world upheaval unequalled in history, is proceeding with the execution of the War of Greater East Asia. The task before the Empire is immense beyond description. The Imperial Forces have scored victories which were a complete surprise to the world. But the way we have to travel before our great mission is fulfilled is long. The need of the moment is to increase the political consciousness of the people and concentrate the nation's political power. By this means we can display the total power of the nation in a manner which will make it possible to achieve the objective of the war.

"The Government held the recent general election inspite of the wartime condition of the country because it desired a fresh, vigorous and strong Diet.

"The results of the election left no doubt about the trend of the sentiment of the people.

"The time is ripe for the exertion of efforts to establish an Imperial rule assistance political structure and perfect a new national structure which would put the country in a position to win a certain final victory in the war. By the Imperial rule assistance Diet is meant a Diet free of partisan strife and where all matters will be discussed from the point of view of the nation.

"This society would assist in the conduct of national affairs by coordinating the political power in the various groups of people in the country.

"An Imperial rule assistance political structure must rest on the assistance of the entire nation. This society means to cooperate with the Imperial Rule Assistance Association in the achievement of the objectives of the Imperial rule assistance movement which has been under way throughout the country. Tremendous are the responsibilities of the Empire which has to bring the War of Greater East Asia to a victorious conclusion, perfect the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and establish the peace of the world. We must deal with the situation confronting our country, constantly bearing in mind the great ideal which inspired the founding of our Empire."

The platform of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association is epitomized as follows:

1. The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, hereinafter the Association, concentrates national political power on the basis of the national structure, thereby expecting to be steeped in the consummation of War of Greater East Asia.

2. The Association expects the consolidation of an Imperial Rule Assistance Diet in observance of the provisions of the Imperial Constitution.

3. The Association expects to keep in close contact with the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, thereby making thoroughgoing the Imperial Rule assistance movement.

4. The Association expects to establish a Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and construct a new world order.

Abe, President of the new Association, declared the 100,000,000 people of the nation should be united as one to enhance the great ideals of Japan embodied in its Empire foundation and should fulfil the Way of Subjects through support of the Imperial Rule.

Unlike political parties, the new Association is a consolidation of nation-wide political force answering the requirements of the nation, thereby intending to achieve the War of Greater East Asia and realization of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. The Association is not established for competition of political power. Even if the Association's influence spreads throughout the Empire, this does not mean anything suggestive of one political party for one country, but it should be interpreted to be the result of the nation's spontaneous will to assist the Imperial Rule.

Imperial Proxies Sent To Funeral Services For Late Count Kaneko

In recognition of many distinguished services rendered during his life time to the State, Their Majesties the Emperor, the Empress and the Empress Dowager were pleased to dispatch Imperial proxies to the funeral services for the late Count Kentaro Kaneko, former member of the Privy Council, which was held at the Aoyama Funeral Hall Wednesday afternoon. Also attending the rites were representatives of the Princes of the Blood and more than 2,000 prominent persons including Premier General Hideki Tojo, Dr. Yoshimichi Hara, President of the Privy Council, State Ministers and members of the Privy Council.

SUPERIOR ARMS USED BY JAPANESE FORCES

(Continued From Page 1)

to bring its speed up to as high as 40 miles per hour. But its type was antiquated, giving it an awkward shape, with the perpendicular wall of its turret mounting unnecessarily high above the body of the tank. Furthermore, it was not well balanced and for this reason it would often stall or turn upside down when running on an uneven road, according to eye-witness accounts from the Philippines.

"This was the kind of tank the American and British forces had, compared with the light and medium tanks of the Imperial Forces, which made brilliant showings in the activities in the Philippines, Malaya as well as in Java. These superior Japanese tanks, together with the tanks owned by the German forces, deserve to be called the most superior tank in the world.

"Our tanks are built with high-quality copper plate armor which offers perfect protection against enemy shells and their maneuverbility is so superior, being equipped with Diesel engines, especially when running on uneven ground, that they have no equals in the whole world.

"Not only in arms but in spirit as well do the Japanese Forces excel the enemy forces. It is due to these superior arms as well as the unique Yamato spirit that the Imperial Forces have invariably succeeded in winning all the battles they have fought thus far. This is clearly proved in the many actual war accounts given in the past.

"Next I should like to touch on something which has equally contributed to the war achievements scored by the Imperial Forces, although lacking the destructive power seen in our firearms. I speak of liaison.

Even Wireless Better

"It is beyond imagination what tremendous difficulties the Imperial Army and Navy Commands had to experience in directing and contacting the Imperial Forces engaged in battles in sectors spread over several thousand kilometers. In directing more than three score daring landings in the face of the enemy, the maintenance of liaison among the forces operating in the jungle regions, or in attacking an enemy stronghold, tremendous difficulties have been tided over. Thus the resplendent war results were made possible for the Imperial Forces by the apparatus used, particularly the wireless.

"The Imperial Forces have captured many wireless sets but none of them are worth considering as war apparatus.

"What deserves attention next is the fearless landing operations and river-crossings at the various fronts, particularly the Johore Strait, effected by the Imperial Forces. Outstanding in these spectacular operations were the motor-boats as well as other river-crossing materials including collapsible bridges etc. As to the efficient qualities of these, many mention has already been made in the newspapers and magazines.

Simple But Effective

"Unlike the more spectacular arms, these materials are rather simple and do not arrest the people's attention, but everyone should keep in mind that these have been largely responsible in enabling the Imperial Forces to succeed in their many landing and river-crossing operations.

"No doubt technical progress is being made by the enemy too. When taken apart we have discovered that some of his arms are worth considering and studying. We should see to it that further progress is made in the manufacture of more superior arms and ordnance in the future so that Japan will be the foremost in the whole world in this field.

"Now it should be noted that behind any gigantic operation there always lies an arsenal. Note should be given to the arms-producing industry. All arms should be not only superior in quality alone but should also be superior in quantity and large and efficient enough to crush the enemy.

"The Imperial Forces have succeeded in scoring a decisive and brilliant victory at the very outset of the war. Needless to say, the war will continue. The enemy is now relying on his rich resources, his engineering and productive power, as well as on his scientific technique in manufacturing large quantity of arms. All the nationals of Japan are cautioned not to be too elated over the war results achieved at the beginning of the war or to be over-proud of the qualities of some of the Japanese-made arms.

"Although Japan has succeeded in stabilizing its foothold on the resources in the Southern Regions, the development of these for the production of arms remains to be made in the future. Officers and men as well as all others should endeavor to see that these resources are developed as soon as possible so that Japan is able to maintain its supremacy over the enemy in quality as well as in quantity of its arms. Thus they will be able to serve the gracious wish of His Majesty the Emperor and respond to the acts of sacrifice of the gallant war dead.

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NEW LAE DESCRIBED BY NAVY PRESSMAN

Reconstruction of City Completed by Japanese Engineering Corps in One Month

A picturesque and vivid account of newly-born Lae in New Guinea, which was completely occupied by the Japanese landing party on March 8 this year, is given in a report to the Tokyo Asahi from Lae by a member of the Navy Press Corps.

The report goes:

"Lae was indispensable to Australia, for it was through this city that large quantities of gold ore, produced in the Morobe gold mine, lying some 100 miles south of the city, as well as in several other gold mines situated nearby, were transported to its mainland. It was only about 30 years ago that this Morobe district was discovered. During this short period, the gold mines in the district underwent a marked development, producing as they now do, a large amount of the ore. So rich is the gold ore produced in these gold mines, that it is said a ton of the ore contains about 230 grams of gold. Besides, in this district, which is covered with thick forests, it is said that there are 600 airfields of various sizes.

Used for Gold Mining

"The construction of these airfields was considered necessary for the mining of the gold ore, and it was under a well-laid-out plan that the Australian authorities started this enterprise by forcing the papua natives of the district to supply the necessary labor at first. A number of photographs confiscated from the enemy give a graphic account of this. To cite an example, there is one airfield constructed for the sole purpose of transporting the gold ore. In all respects Lae was considered one of the foremost outposts of Australia since these airdromes were constructed to strengthen the national defense of the country.

"At one corner of the airdrome were 2 hangars which were completely destroyed by shells unleashed by the crack units of the Japanese Naval Air Forces. Exposed in the balmy sea breeze coming from the South Seas were found 4 relics of enemy planes, a miserable sight with their bodies and wings completely smashed. Scattered around these relics were also found wrecked propellers and parts of the demolished planes. Machine-gunned by the crack Japanese air units and lying broken beside these were also seen an enemy Forde transporting plane.

"Lae is but a small town, its circumference being only about 2 odd miles. It is surrounded by steep ranges of mountains facing the Yuon Bay. However, compared with Rabaul in New Britain, it appears to be more modern and productive.

"Trees, shrubs and flowers of all kinds becoming to a tropic region—coconut, papaya, arcasia, rose, jasmine, etc.—are found either thriving or in full bloom the greater part of the year. Amid them stand native bungalow-like houses, thatched with tiles, with very long walls painted white, and such high floors, that they offer an air of extreme coolness and coziness. It was in these dwellings that Australian mining engineers, government officials, naval and military officers, those connected with mining corporations, and others were living in luxury prior to the outbreak of the current War of Greater East Asia.

Costly Furniture Found

"Besides, in each of these houses there were found expensive pianos, organs, and high-priced radio sets, with which the people could listen in to news broadcast from Tokyo, Berlin or New York. In addition, there were also found in these houses expensive books, including collections of English classics, American Modern Literature, encyclopaedias, dictionaries, sets of Charles Dickens' works, and others.

"On the eastern coast of Lae, there were the Lae Hotel and the Lae Club House. There were also a swimming pool and tennis courts, and at the entrance of these there was sure to be found a notice prohibiting the admission of the native Kanaka and Papua tribes who were abhorred and discriminated against by the Australians.

"Resorting to their favorite 'scorched-earth' tactics, the enemy completely destroyed not only the military establishments but also harbor facilities, houses, household equipments, and in fact, everything they could put their hands on. However, following the reduction of the town, the Japanese engineering corps brought it back to its former shape in the short period of only one month, repairing the harbor, hangars, airfields, houses, power plant, electric equipments and others. Thus, with peace and order restored, all the Chinese merchants, who once evacuated, returned to the town to continue their business peacefully, some offering to grow vegetables to supply them to the Japanese soldiers, while the natives of the town assisted in the reconstruction work."

JEWS TO WEAR ARMBANDS

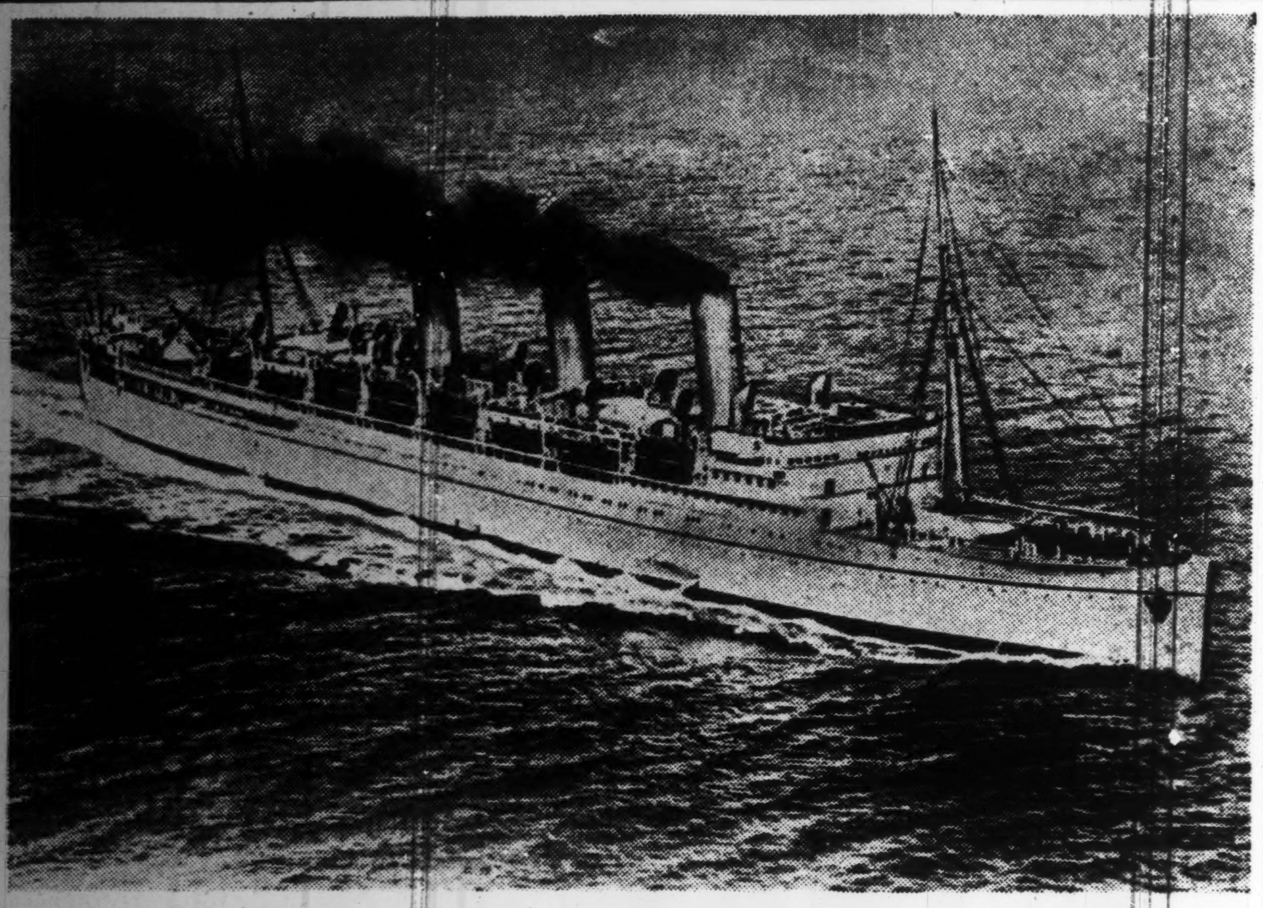
Bulgaria Decrees New Step for Laborers

[illegible]

SOFIA, May 19.—Jews drafted for labor service this summer will have to wear armbands 12 centimeters in width in order to distinguish them from other workers, according to press reports.

This will be the first time that Jews in Bulgaria will wear distinguishing marks. They will be mainly employed on railway and road construction.

Empress of Asia Sinking Told



Domei

LISBON, May 19.—Details of the sinking of the 16,909-ton Empress of Asia by a Japanese bombing attack have been revealed by one of the surviving members of the ill-fated liner, who declared that five direct hits were scored on the liner by the Japanese bombers, according to a Reuters report received here from Vancouver today.

The Canadian liner carrying 2,500 Canadian officers and men as well as 100 members of the crew, was on its way to Singapore during the Malay hostilities when sighted by a Japanese bombing squadron six miles off the island, the report said.

The Japanese planes immediately attacked the liner from an altitude of 25,000 feet, scoring five direct bomb hits on the ship. Four of the bombs reportedly hit the deck while the fifth exploded in the scullery, causing a huge conflagration.

The Australian sloop Yarra which had been escorting the liner to its destination fired intensely on the Japanese warplanes but without effect, the report disclosed.

The Empress of Asia was put into service in 1913, and had been on the Pacific run before the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. (Photo: the Empress of Asia.)

VITAL ROLE PLAYED BY KWANGTUNG NOW

Development Greatly Helps Establishment of New Order for Asia

C.P.S.

NANKING, May 10.—Writing editorially on the development of Kwangtung, the Central China Daily News today states that Kwangtung is the budding place of the Chinese revolutionary movement. But, the paper continues, before and after the outbreak of the China Affair, it has always been exploited by the war lords and politicians; it has always been a ground of petty strife and internecine warfare. This explains, the editorial stresses, why immediately after the outbreak of the war—only within a matter of ten days—Kwangtung fell. Here the corruption and crime of dictatorial war-lordship reached its apogee.

In conclusion, the paper declares that Kwangtung is, after all, only part of China. Therefore, if Kwangtung should be developed, all the more so should the whole of China—"we should do all we can to propagate such a revolutionary spirit till it permeates the length and breadth of the land, until the Chinese Revolution is consummated. And only then will China be able to share the responsibility of establishing the New Order in East Asia."

The editorial follows:

Kwangtung is the budding place of the Chinese revolutionary movement. But before and after the China Affair it has always been exploited by warlords and politicians; it has always been a ground of petty strife and internecine warfare. This explains why immediately after the outbreak of the war—only within a matter of ten days—Kwangtung fell. Here the corruption and crime of dictatorial war-lordship reached its apogee.

All-Round Progress

Economically, under the principle of opening up natural resources without ever enhancing the financial burden of the people, and practising economy without ever hindering productive and salutary enterprises, the provincial government has been able not only to make itself self-sufficient, but to hand surplus revenue over to the Central Government periodically. The standard of living and the facility of communication have been greatly raised. Culturally, not only primary education has been restored, but high-school education is rapidly being developed. The establishment of a provincial university, and library; and the dissemination of social education are all the more eloquent of the cultural development of the province. We have only touched upon the most conspicuous things, which, nevertheless, are enough to serve our purpose, and should serve as examples to other provinces.

That such development is helpful to the establishment of the Greater East Asiatic New Order, is plain. But we should not feel content. Although the areas now under the writ of the provincial government are at once rich and vital, many districts are still under the iron heels of bandits. The rural pacification campaign needs to be accelerated, so as to relieve the oppressed at the earliest date possible. Also though after the reorganization of the provincial government, much has been done to blunt the edge of the impending bankruptcy of the countryside, too many fields are still lying waste. To utilize the unemployed to reclaim these lands is the most pressing problem of the moment.

Again, since Hongkong is full of Cantonese, the people of Kwangtung should give greater and still greater cooperation to the Japanese, so as to obtain final victory. All this is put down because it is most apparent. We have mentioned only the most prominent things. The goal that the Kwangtung Provincial Government has had in view, naturally must be greater. On this second anniversary of the establishment of the Kwangtung Provincial Government, we express our best wishes for its further success.

Bright Future Seen

With the spread of the Peace Movement darks clouds were dispersed, and for the past two years, light has been playing all over the province. Today national flags are wafting all over the place. Though near the front, under the cooperation of the Japanese, the provincial authorities and the people, Kwangtung has not only gradually recovered but promises vital development. A review of the situation will strengthen our faith in the Peace Movement as the road to a bright future.

The reorganization of the Kwangtung Provincial Government on May 10, 1940, was one fruit of the Peace Movement. At that time, that the provincial authorities found a Herculean task in their hands, is imaginable. They had to clean up much confusion and much chaos. But they had faith in the Peace Movement. So under the guidance of the Central Government and with the cooperation of the Japanese, within two years, they have achieved a good deal either in the political, economic, educational, cultural or military field. Politically, the foundation of local administration has been well laid; the livelihood of the people has been improved; the three-fold training of how to teach the ignorant, take care of the helpless and defend the weak, has borne fruits. Militarily, the organization and training of police has been carried out satisfactorily. The people have been inured to the necessity of self-defense, so the robbers and thieves and traitors have come to find the place too hot for them.

As the budding place of revolution, Kwangtung naturally has its own revolutionary spirit and individuality. The rapid development during the past two years is the palpable sign of such spirit. But the aim of our revolution is to gain China freedom and equality, and China's freedom and equality will be useful in the task of rejuvenating East Asia. Kwangtung is only part of China. If Kwangtung should be developed, all the more so should China. We should do all we can to propagate such revolutionary spirit till it permeates the length and breadth of the land, till the Chinese Revolution is consummated. And only when it is consummated, will China be able to share responsibility of establishing the New Order in East Asia.

Kobe Notes

The Chinese Ambassador to Japan, Hsu Liang, accompanied by his suite, was scheduled to arrive in Kobe at 9:32 a.m. today, on a brief visit to the Kansai port city.

At noon the same day, Ambassador Hsu will attend a luncheon party to be given in his honor at the Oriental Hotel under the joint auspices of Hyogo Prefecture, the Kobe Municipality and the Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

In the afternoon, from 5 o'clock, the Chinese envoy is scheduled to address the Chinese community of Kobe and Osaka at the headquarters of the Chinese Association at Nakayamate-dori, Kobe.

Ambassador Hsu is scheduled to return to Tokyo on Friday, May 22.

The 70th anniversary of the founding of Minatogawa Shrine will be celebrated by the citizens of Kobe with a festival on May 24.

The following guests were registered at the Tor Hotel on May 19: Major General S. Enozawa, Mr. and Mrs. K. Hirasaka, Mrs. M. Hirashima, Mr. G. Kataoka and son, Mr. A. Lesourd, Mr. H. Ohmoto, Mr. S. Ohmori, Dr. and Mrs. W. Prahl and two sons, and Mrs. H. Schalk.

ALLIED INDISCRETION SEEN BY NAZI PAPER

Coral Sea Propaganda Killed by Loose Talk of Roosevelt, Curtin

D.N.B.

BERLIN, May 18.—Indiscreet utterances of President Roosevelt and Australian Prime Minister John Curtin made last week, and the serious consequences they had on the failure of Roosevelt's gag to propagandize the American navy's "great naval victory" in the Coral Sea are taken up and critically examined by the Berliner Boersenzeitung.

Last Thursday, the paper states, Roosevelt condemned the members of the Pacific War Council for their indiscretions during the course of deliberations. The next day, however, he answered the question of a representative of the press with the remark, that the "lecture" he had given "concerning the necessity of extreme reticence on matters of the Pacific War Council and of military operations should not only be applied to Australia but to every other continent as well."

In this connection, the paper says that "from Washington's point of view it was a terrible indiscretion for Curtin to make, when right in the midst of the agitation regarding the outcome of the Battle in the Coral Sea, he should declare that the position of Australia would become more critical, if the result of the battle did not correspond to expectations."

"In order to understand Roosevelt's important rage against all utterances from which the true results of the battle may be gathered, one must recall," the paper continues, "that Washington and New York were simultaneously raving about the devastating blow dealt to the Japanese Fleet."

The Berlin journal concludes with the following words:

"The revelation of the Australian publisher Sir Keith Murdoch in the Daily Mail according to which it was an air battle rather than a sea battle that took place in the Coral Sea, must have irritated Washington officials to the utmost. For thus, on the one hand, the Japanese statements are corroborated, while on the other, Washington's assertions that important Japanese Naval Units were sunk, are refuted."

FILIPINO AWAKENING FIRST REQUIREMENT

Younger Generation in Islands Must Be Rejuvenated, Says Noted Writer

"Spare the rod, and spoil the child," is just the saying to be actually applied to the younger generation in the Philippines of today, before they are honored with the glory of independence, asserts Ki Kimura, a noted writer who followed the Imperial Expeditionary Army in the Philippines, in one of his serial articles appearing in the Tokyo Nichi Nichi.

According to the noted writer, when a Japanese ship sailed to the Southern Regions last year to pick up the Japanese evacuees, it was disclosed that the Japanese residents in Malaya were living a life of hell on earth while the Japanese in the Philippines were, on the other hand, living in a Paradise. In order to solve this enigma of the Filipino's unexpected kindness toward the Japanese, the writer followed the Expeditionary Army. His article follows:

"The unexpected kindness extended by the Filipinos is, first of all, attributable to the ceaseless efforts made by Japanese farmers in Mindanao who made Manila hemp famous throughout the world for its unexcelled quality.

"The second factor is that the aid the Japanese rendered to the Philippine Independence Army is still living vividly in the minds of the aged Filipinos. Some 40 years ago, when the Philippines was invaded by the United States, General Emilio Aguinaldo rose in arms against America, as the leader of the Philippine Independence Army, to which not a little of sympathy and aid were extended by various quarters in Japan. The fact that Japan offered help at that critical time, was remembered by the Filipinos and returned by acts of kindness toward the evacuating Japanese last year.

"From the above tendency, some may conclude that it is not difficult to guide the populace of the Philippines to understand the true intent of this country. But it is premature to state so, particularly about the younger generation, who have been dazzled by the material civilization of America. Therefore, in awakening them as an Asiatic race, the rod should not be spared.

"Through the so-called American cultural policies, the potential Asiatic consciousness of the younger generation was allowed to be dormant. For instance, there are more than 10 movie houses in Manila but only one book-store. This is an indication of the American 'cultural policy' toward the Philippines, which the younger generation cannot realize as malicious.

"Young Filipinos often say: 'Spain gave us religion and cathedrals during their 300-year long reign; during 40 years, the United States afforded schools and motor roads; what will be given by Japan? Independence?' In reply to such voice raised by the younger generation, I had an opportunity to appeal to them through the radio. I said: 'You are longing for independence to be granted by Japan. However, to the young men of the Philippine Islands, the rod is more needed than independence. Therefore, the first Japanese present to you, young Filipinos, will be ordeals by the rod to awaken you as an Asiatic race, prior to the granting of the glorious independence.'"

NEW MEN APPOINTED FOR EAST ASIA BODY

Premier Hideki Tojo and Prince Konoye to Act As Advisers

The Dai-Nippon East Asia Development Federation, which recently carried out reforms in its organization, announced new officials Tuesday afternoon.

Premier General Hideki Tojo and Prince Fumimaro Konoye, former Premier, have agreed to serve as honorary advisers.

Under the reform plan, the president, vice-president, chief director, assistant chief director, and all managing directors will direct the work of the inquiry room which has newly been set up in the organization. The organization will have a total of nine departments, general affairs, thought, training, overseas possessions, Manchuria, North China and Mongolia, Central China, and Southern Regions.

Officials Named

The officials of the Federation follow:

Honorary advisers: Prince Fumimaro Konoye and Premier General Hideki Tojo.

Permanent advisers: General Kuniaki Koiso, Lieutenant-General Kisaburo Ando, Fumio Goto, Baron Iwakusu Ida, General Baron Shigeru Honjo, Kozo Ota, Baron Kimmochi Okura, Vice-Admiral Shizue Tsuda, Yoshihisa Kuzuu, General Nobuyuki Abe, Kenzo Adachi, Lieutenant-General Richachiro Banzai, Ryutaro Nagai, Ryusaku Endo and Mitsuo Miyata.

Advisers: Sotaro Ishiwata and 49 others.

Councilors: Rikuro Takagi, Takayoshi Matsumuro, Nobuyoshi Akama, Fusajiro Ichinomiya, Chihiko Konishi, Kengo Murakawa, Tan Shidehara, Masao Kanda and Viscount Nagakage Okabe.

Vice-Director-in-Chief: Kazue Kuwashima.

Permanent directors: Yasaburo Shimonaka, Takeyo Nakaya, Hidezo Toyama, Suematsu Fujikake, Ryuichi Okano, Tanenori Irie, Hiroshi Ikeda, Naoyoshi Ujida and Toshitatsu Karasawa.

HOMESPUN OF HORSEHAIR

Japanese Invention Much Better Than British Fabric

Horsehair homespun, invented by the Yuki Textile Investigation Laboratory of Akita Prefecture, has proved of such excellent quality that experts consider it to be far superior to British-made pure wool homespun.

Rigid tests have been conducted by the laboratory, the new fabric being put through the friction and other testers. The results have proved beyond doubt that the British homespun, hitherto considered to be the best in the world, has at long last met a competitor worthy of the name.

Japanese horsehair homespun is superior to the British product in the three essential points: durability, separation and warmness.

CLOTHING ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IS PLANNED

Will Seek to Popularize Standard Dresses Among Weaker Sex

A Japanese Women's Standard Clothing Association is to be organized under the sponsorship of Mrs. Yayoi Yoshioka, President of the Women's Medical College, Mrs. Hide Inoue, President of the Japan Women's College, Mrs. Waka Yamada and Miss Toshi Hachisuka.

The purpose of the Association is to popularize women's standard clothing, to train women leaders and, to conduct investigations into women's welfare. In the future the Association hopes to take the leadership in all the problems of clothing in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

Mrs. Yoshioka will be chosen as the chairman of the Association and the Welfare Ministry, War Ministry and other Ministries will act as advisers.

The inaugural meeting of the Association will take place in the Gunjin Kaikwan at 1:30 p.m. on June 4. On the same day there will be a display of women's standard dresses.

3rd Schubert Evening
SEIICHI HAYAKAWA
(Barytone)
Prof. Klaus Pringsheim
(Piano)
Thurs., May 28, at 6:30 p.m.
SANGYO KAIKAN
PROGRAM
1. An die Musik
Auf dem Wasser zu Singen
Du bist die Ruh
Greisengesang
Sei mir gegruesst
Lied des gefangenen Jaegers
2. Gruppe aus dem Tartarus
Grenzen der Menschheit
Prometheus
Geheimes
Gesaenge des Harfners I, II, III
Rastlose Liebe
3. Fruehlingsglaube
Nacht und Traeume
Staendchen
Das Rosenband
Der Wanderer
Die Allmacht
Admission: ¥2.50, ¥1.25, (Inc. tax)
Advance Booking at Play Guide, Music Stores and Sangyo Kaikan.

Tues., May 26, at 6:30 p.m.
at Hibiya Public Hall
The Ninth Abonnement Concert of
TOKYO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Generalmusikdirektor
Conductor: MANFRED GURLITT
Soloist: KOJI TAKU (Piano)
PROGRAM
1. Charpentier: Impressions d'Italie
2. Bizet: L' Arlesienne-Suite No. 1
3. Ravel: Concerto pour Piano et Orchestre
4. Dukas: L'Apprenti Sorcier
Admission: Abonnement (3 Concerts, Tax Incl.)
A: ¥7.50 B: ¥4.50
Special (1 Concert Only)
A: ¥3.00 B: ¥2.00
Sold at PLAY GUIDE, JUJIYA, YAMANO.

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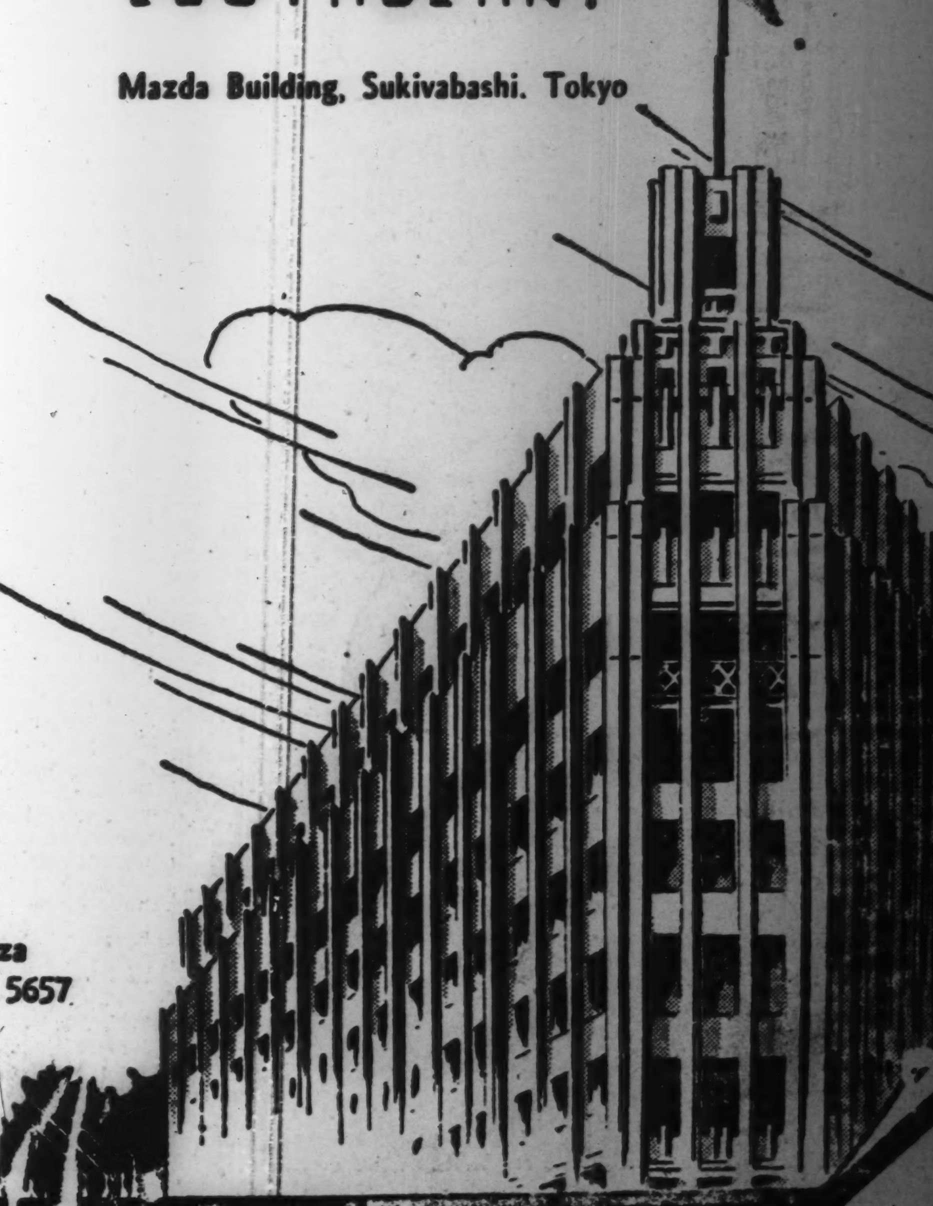
Vocal Recital
TEIICHI INOUE
(Tenor)
"Evening of Japanese Songs and German Lieder"
Piano: KURO OKADA
Violin: HIROTSUGU SHINOZAKI
Tuesday, May 26,
at 6:30 p.m.
MEIJI SEIMEI HALL
PROGRAM
1. A. JENSEN:
a) Am Ufer des Flusses, des Manzanares
b) Lehn deine Wang an meine Wang
c) Murmelndes Lueftchen, Bluetenwind
2. Y. HIRAI:
a) Lyric to Twilight
b) Secret Song
c) "Tsukomo-ga-hama"
3. J. BRAHMS:
a) Staendchen
b) Am Sonntagmorgen
c) Tambour-Liedchen
4. S. MOROI:
a) Boy
b) Ginko Tree
c) Wind, Light and Leaves
5. R. STRAUSS:
a) Staendchen
b) Traum durch die Daemmerung
c) Wie Sollten wir Geheim sie halten?
6. T. NARITA:
a) "Hamabe-no-Uta"
b) Autumn of Old battlefield
7. YANADA:
a) Day's Dream
b) Flower in Spring
Admission: ¥1.00 (incl. tax) Advance Booking at Play Guide, Music Stores and Meiji Seimei Hall



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CHILEAN GUEST HERE IS WRITER OF NOTE

Short Biography Given of Augusto Iglesias by Visiting Scribe

By Gustavo Labarca Garat

The writer, a young Chilean journalist, a representative of the paper El Imporcial, of Santiago, is now visiting Japan gathering information and data with the purpose of bringing about close ties between the two countries. This task he begins by presenting a short biography of a noted Chilean contemporary writer, Augusto Iglesias, who is at present a visitor in this country as a guest of the Government.

Augusto Iglesias, unknown to Japanese writers until a short while ago has, notwithstanding, deservedly achieved great renown as an artist and a serious and scrupulous investigator in the Spanish American countries. Mr. Iglesias began his career as a writer in the years that preceded the World War in 1914. At that time he was, as the photographs of that epoch show us, a beardless youth of sentimental appearance; thin to the point of emaciation, with the disheveled locks of an adolescent which he proudly affected with the arrogant air of a bohemian. He lived in Paris and, from the "Dreamland of Latin Thoughts," sent fervent and suggestive correspondence to El Industrial of Antofagasta, the oldest newspaper of the saltpetre region of Chile, former province of the Bolivian coast which was annexed to the Republic of Chile shortly after the conflict of 1879.

During that period, dedicated mostly to chronicle the North, all spiritual burgeoning was nipped by the new interest aroused by the saltpetre industry. Neither poetry, nor music, nor paintings, that is to say, nothing relating to artistic sentiments found room in this desolate steppe. The resounding echo of dynamite explosions blasting the rock to extract copper, silver and gold ore; and the groaning of the cranes suspending their loads of nitrate to be deposited on the swift-sailing vessels anchored in the harbor, destroyed no matter how fine a vibration of the creative mind that tried to project itself. Hence the children of those pioneers who became wealthy through the conquest of that wilderness welcomed with warm appreciation the chronicles and poems which this lad with a roving disposition sent from Lutetia. Then came the war.

Returns to Birthplace

Mr. Iglesias gave up his Parisian apartment in the street of Washington 144, near the Champs Elysees, in order to return to his country and resume his life in the barren lands of Antofagasta, where he was born. Salvador Reyes, one of the most outstanding writers of Chile and Spanish America, then a child, wrote a page full of affection and brotherly sentiments many years later, recollecting the day when Mr. Iglesias returned from Europe, and the amused admiration with which the new writers of that time watched him sauntering along the avenue Prat de Antofagasta bundled up in a fur coat that the girls looked at with amazement and the industrialists with disdain.

That period perhaps, is one of the most interesting chapters in the biography of Mr. Iglesias. Various writers, among them Antonio Pinto Duran, the greatest orator of Spanish America, have also termed it thus.

Why the importance of this date?

Mr. Duran, in his famous study which appears as the prologue for "Prayers of the Flesh", the first poetical work of Mr. Iglesias; pointed it out thus, considering it an incredible exploit that an individual, without any weapon except that of inspiration and literary talent could break through the wall of stony indifference of a people so commercialized; sowing seeds of artistic emotion, which eventually were to give as fruit a generation of magnificent writers.

The first thing that Mr. Iglesias then did was to found a literary magazine jointly with Mr. Duran.

This magazine was published under the title of "White and Blue." And, curiously enough in the first number, Mr. Iglesias contributed a poem called "Orient," which was not to be found in any of his earlier books.

Shortly afterwards Mr. Iglesias wrote a dramatic comedy entitled "The Barrier" enacted for the first time in the Victoria Theater of Antofagasta in 1917, by the Spanish Troupe of Comedy and Drama "Abad-Ares." During a gathering of writers in Santiago, the poet and novelist Oscar Lanas referred to the play with words of praise which the literary critic of the Santiago magazine "Sucesos" published in full, saying amongst other things: "In all the days of my recollection Antofagasta never had such a gala night or one of greater transcendence than this soiree in which the play of Mr. Iglesias was performed. The entire society of that port filled the seats of the Victoria Theater, and each act brought a ceaseless ovation to the young author who was moved to tears. On the second night of the performance the general commander of that city sent the regimental band "Esmeralda" to entertain the audience during the intervals of the play with popular selections."

If one asked me what his style is or in what manner his works can be classified, I could only answer with a borrowed phrase from Terencio "He is a man and consequently all which concerns men interests him." In my opinion, therefore, Mr. Iglesias enthusiastically embraces to the utmost boundaries all that can be called Humanism and which with the flight of time is more difficult to conceive owing to the endless multiplicity which the human knowledge attains. Nevertheless, our author, urged by his scholastic inclinations has essayed styles as varied as novels, dramas, poetry, art history, biographies, religious and political history, etomology, philosophy and international politics. To these various styles belong his following books: "Maya," "Gettatura," "Five Novels of Love," "The Enchantment of Vina del Mar," "The Oasis" (novels); "The Barrier," "Cancion" (plays); "Prayers of the Flesh," "The Naked Word,' and "Francisco de Asis" (poems); "From San Francisco de Asis to the Origin of the Italian Renaissance" (lectures in the University of Chile not yet collected in volume, dealing with the influence of that period on the Renaissance Art); "Jose Miguel Carrera" (first prize on historical biographies granted by the Official Literary Controversy of 1931); "Bolivar Man of Destiny" (three volumes on the Bolivian movement of American independence recently released by the Chilean publishers "Orbe"); "The Ideologic revolution of Chile" 1891-1924 (a historic political essay); "Cervantes and Quixote" (critical essay); "The Latrodectus Formidabilis" (study on the characteristics and habits of the poisonous spider of that name found in Chile); "Subjective Law as opposed to Objective Law" (juridical thesis published in the annals of the University of Chile). As regards national politics all I can say is that the chronicles which Mr. Iglesias wrote under the nom-de-plume of "Jorge Retel" for "La Nacion" of Santiago in the course of several years, commenting weekly on the most outstanding international events occuring, could be compiled into several volumes.

Praised by Critics

Chilean critics have unanimously sung praises of his considerable task, and the most authorized personalities such as Omer Emeth, Alone, Ricardo Davila Silva and Misael Correa Pasrene, have not spared themselves in showing their approval. This is no mean achievement if we consider that the eagerness for attaining world renown misleads many who instead of successfully exploring in one direction blunder about in vain stumbling in all of them and turning themselves into examples of mediocrity and general uncouthness. The secret does not lie in having a vague knowledge of things in general but in the selection of the method to tackle any task, requiring profound and constant study and also unprejudiced and meticulous investigation.

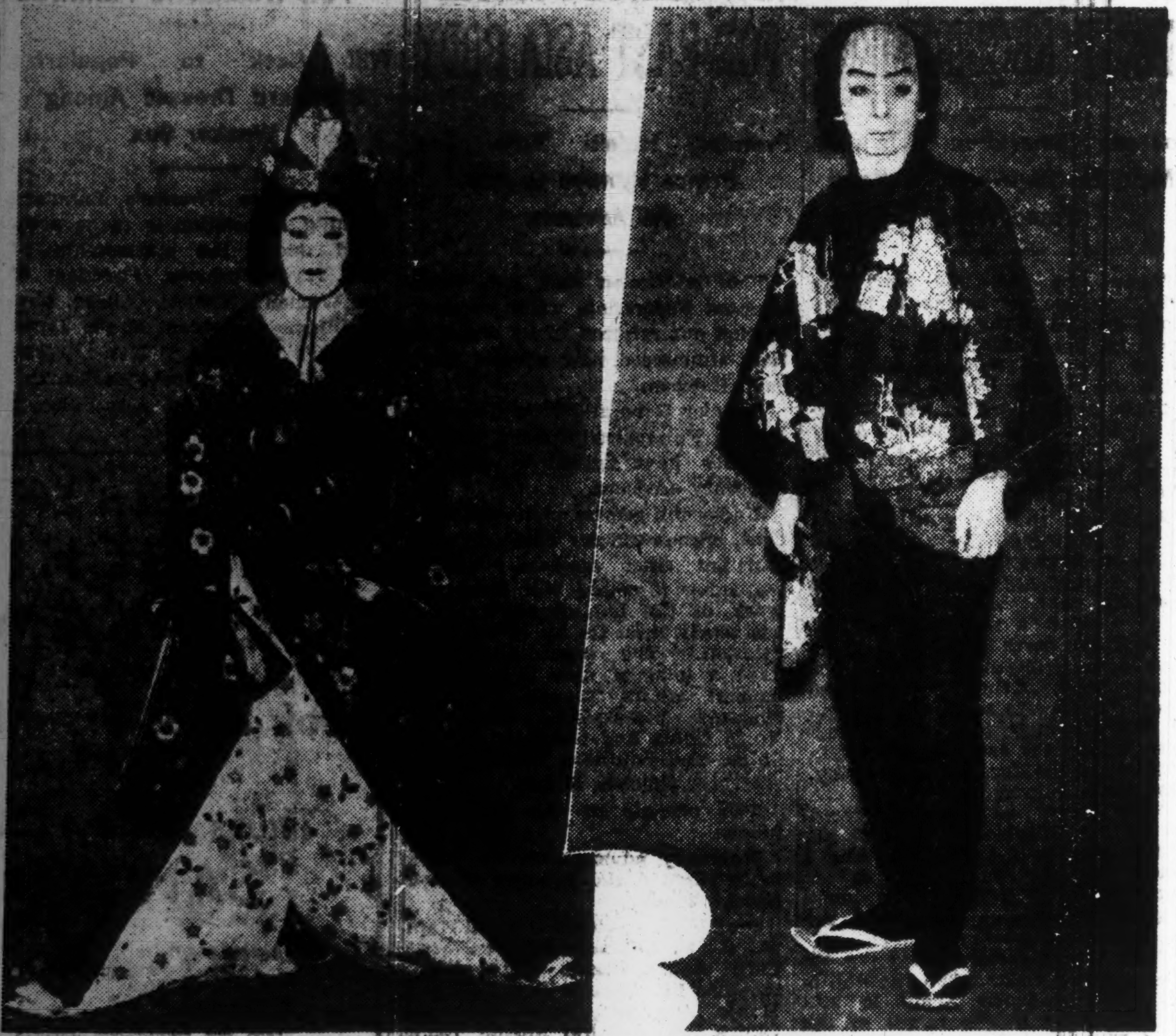
This secret is known to Mr. Iglesias and it is because of these attributes that we are obliged to give him the name of Maestro.

When he had already reached a respectable age and had a home of his own, Mr. Iglesias took up law in the University of Santiago and graduated amidst the love and admiring respect of all his teachers. This achievement so rare in persons who have lived beyond "il mezzo d'il camin di nostra vita" as Alghieri puts it, has consolidated his prestige. Today his name has crossed the frontiers of his country. Cultural academies and societies are honored to count him among their members, including the Bolivarian Society of Ecuador and the Academy of History of Venezuela where he was proposed by two eminent personalities, Vicente Lecura and Cristobál Mendoza, the former being one of the greatest historians in the Castilian language and the most outstanding in Venezuela. Raffo de la Retta, Argentine politician and Vice-President of the "Socieda Sanmartiniana" of Buenos Aires, dedicated a book of more than 400 pages to comment on the historical work of Mr. Iglesias; Jose Santos Chocano, the American poet, dedicates a full poem in "Fantasia Errante" to praise his work, and all the registries of the Continent point him out as an able and meritorious writer.

Nevertheless, he assures us that he has not yet reached his ultimate goal and he studies and prepares new material with his customary eagerness steering his vessel full of illusions toward the history of Oriental art and the ancient religions of Asia. Here, in Nippon, he has just completed an essay on the artistic and charming Japan of the 18th century which he conceived through subjective interpretations of the engravings of Katsukawa Shunsho. His friends often tell him with affectionate familiarity that he suffers from book mania as not being satisfied with the 15 thousand volumes which he has in the vast halls of his private library in Santiago de Chile, he is ceaselessly searching through the book stores in Ginza, Kanda and Shibuya.

They are right. As a matter of fact, Mr. Iglesias is really a "book fanatic" who is not satisfied with daily increasing his collection with new and expensive additions but he himself indefatigably brings them forth from the quiet fertility of his constant meditation.

Colorful Kabuki Attracts Many



One of the most colorful theatrical offerings this month is Kikugoro's "Dojoji" at the Kabukiza. Left photo shows the noted acter in a famous classic dance role. Also playing at the same theater is Uzayemon who takes the part of a Yedo artisan as shown in the right photo.

What of the Rialto?

By Tsunejiro Amakata

Under the support of the Board of Information, the Navy Association, and the Theatrical Cultural League, an extra performance of Japanese classical dances and music will be given at the Hibiya Public Hall on May 28 in celebration of the triumphant victory of the Japanese Imperial Navy.

The first performance in a series of the presentation of famous operas of the Axis Powers planned by the Fujiwara Opera Company will be given at the Kabukiza for three days from May 27. Puccini's Tosca will feature the program. Headed by Yoshie Fujiwara, the leading players will include Nobuko Hara, Kikuye Kikuda, Keisuke Shiyagawa, Takeshi Tomeda, Hidekichi Hibino, Goro Murao, Soichiro Namioka, Toichiro Asai and Miyeko Suzuki. The music will be provided by the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Manfred Gurlitt. The opera will be directed by Keizo Horiuchi with settings by Ryutaro Mibayashi.

"Hakushi Shoshurei" (Drafting of Civilians for Special Purposes), a new play by Mitsutoshi Chigiri, has been selected as one of the feature offerings of the June performance at the Tokyo Gekijo, where an all-star cast of the Geijutsuza and Inouye Dramatic School will jointly play headed by Yaeko Mizutani.

To serve the country through theatrical activities, the Hakotora Entertainment Enterprise Company has organized a group of stage players under the name of the Nippon Kokumin Engei Hokokukai with the support of the War and Home Ministries. Shin Hasegawa, noted playwright, has been appointed adviser to the new group, which will devote plays for the spirit of the people behind the guns through the stage.

"Gunkanki Yukutokoro" (Wherever the Naval Ensign Goes), a new play by Ichiro Kawasaki under the supervision of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, will be the highlight of the new program to be presented at the local Takarazuka Gekijo, starting June 2. The other features include "Tachi Nusubito" (A Sword Thief), and "Peking." The star dancers of the Snow Troupe of the Takarazuka Girls' Opera Company will play with Yachiyo Kasugano and Reiko Hatsune in the shining roles.

Three repertoire plays of the Kabuki-dom will make up a part of the June bill at the Kabukiza, where Uzayemon Ichimura will be the top-notch player in concert with Baigyoku Nakamura, who will be the guest player from the Osaka stage. They are "Youchi Soga Kariba no Akebono" (The Tale of the Soga Brothers), "Ryoben Sugi" (Ryoben, a Priest), and "Sewanasake Ukina no Yokogushi" (The Romance of Otomi and Yosaburo).

The Gekidan Todo, a juvenile dramatic group, will play at the Yurakuza on May 27 and 28, this being the 55th performance. The program consists of "Senso to Jagaimo" (The War and White Potato) by Hisatoshi Kikuoka, and "Bunkyojo no Haru" (Spring in a Classroom) by Kunio Motoki.

A party of 12 vaudeville performers organized by the Theatrical Cultural League left Tokyo last week for Manchoukuo to make an extended tour of entertaining Japanese soldiers there.

As a souvenir of the recent visit to Manchoukuo, Matsutaro Kawaguchi, well known playwright, has produced a two-act drama entitled "Shokako" (Sungari River), which will be staged at the Meijiza in June. The Shinsei Shimpa theatrical troupe, which played in Manchoukuo last month in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Manchoukuo Empire, will play in the new drama.

Concert Calendar

Dance Recital by Madame Seiko Takata and members of Takata Dance Studio. Choreography by Seiko Takata. Saturday, May 23, at 6:30 p.m., at Hibiya Public Hall.

The 4th Sunday Special Concert by the Nippon Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Hisatada Otaka. Soloist: Takashi Kurata, 'cello. Sunday, May 24, at 1 p.m., at Hibiya Public Hall.

Dance Recital by Takaya Eguchi and Misaoko Miya, accompanied by a small orchestra including Koji Taku, piano and other musicians. Monday, May 25, matinee at 4 p.m. and soiree at 7 p.m., at Teikoku Gekijo.

The 9th Abonnement Concert of Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Professor Manfred Gurlitt, soloist: Koji Taku, piano. Tuesday, May 26, at 6:30 p.m., at Hibiya Public Hall.

Vocal Recital by Teiichi Inoue, tenor. "Evening of Japanese Songs and German Lieder". Kuro Okada, piano and Hirotsugu Shinozaki, violin. Tuesday, May 26, at 6:30 p.m., at Meiji Seimei Hall.

Grand opera performance of Yoshie Fujiwara Opera Company. Puccini's "Tosca" in three acts, artists including Yoshie Fujiwara, Keisuke Shimoyagawa, Kikue Takita and Nobuko Hara. Accompaniment by Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, directed by Professor Manfred Gurlitt. Chorus by Nippon Chorus Group. From Wednesday, May 27 to 29, inclusive, beginning at 6:30 p.m. everyday (May 29 only—matinee 1 p.m., soiree at 6:30 p.m.), at Kabuki-za.

Vocal Recital by Seiichi Hayakawa, baritone, "Third Schubert Lieder Evening," with Professor Klaus Pringsheim at the piano. Thursday, May 28, at 6:30 p.m., at Sangyo Kaikan.

Piano Recital by Miss Yoshiko Kuroda, program devoted to Bach-Busoni, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy, Liszt. Friday, May 29, at 7 p.m., at Hibiya Public Hall.

"Evening of Chamber Music", artists including Morijiro Makino, violin, Taizo Furuya, violin, Natsuko Sugita, viola and Toshizo Yamazaki, 'cello. Friday, May 29, at 7 p.m., at Sangyo Kaikan.

Concert by Takaori Piano Trio, artists including Miyaji Takaori, piano, Takeo Inoue, violin and Yasuzo Hirai 'cello. Saturday, May 30, at 7 p.m., at Aoyama Kaikan.

The Concert by Tokyo Seien Orchestra under the direction of Toroku Takagi, sponsored by the Nippon Geiji Kyokai. Sunday, May 31, at 6 p.m., at Nihon Seinenkan Hall.

Piano Recital by Shigeko Kaneko, Tuesday, June 2, at 7 p.m., at Meiji Seimei Hall.

The 237th Subscription Concert by the Nippon Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Kazuo Yamada, Wednesday and Thursday, June 3 and 4, at 7 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall.

The Second Concert of Gyosei-kai. "Evening with Piano, Violin and Vocal Numbers", Friday, June 5, at 6:30 p.m., at Sangyo Kaikan.

Piano Recital by Miss Yoko Matsukuma, program devoted to numbers by Chopin and Liszt. Saturday, June 6, at 7 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall.

Vocal Recital by Miss Sueko Hirahara, soprano, which was expected to be given May 20, was postponed to Wednesday June 10, due to illness. The concert will begin at 7 p.m., at Nihon Seinenkan on that date.

JAPANESE PICTURES POPULAR IN SOUTH

Big Increase Seen in Exports Compared With Business in Anti-Axis Nations

Exports of Japanese motion pictures to the countries in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere in recent years markedly increased, according to an investigation made by the Home Ministry. On the other hand, those to the anti-Axis countries decreased. In the year 1941, the exports totaled 4,842 cases or 12,258 reels, this being an increase of 418 cases against the figures for the previous year when the total was 4,424 cases or 11,378 reels. Detailed figures of exports last year are 1,842 cases to Manchoukuo; 1,978 to China; 52 to Thailand; 141 to French Indo-China; 363 to America; 150 to Hawaii; and 7 to Canada.

The Education Ministry has recently approved the following pictures as the legitimate culture features. They are 'Rikugun Rakkasan Butai Sento-hen" (Fight of the Army Parachutist Units) by Nichiyei; "Jintai" (The Human Body) by Jujiya; "Nomin Gekijo" (Villagers' Theater) by Jujiya; "Tokubetsu Kogekitai" (The Special Attack Flotilla) by Nichiyei; and "Shokako" (Sungari River) by Manyei.

Altogether 57 motion pictures, which have been recognized by the Education Ministry as suitable for school children, have been added to the list of classroom use, such as "Bokura no Toshokan" (Our Library), "Boyenkyo" (Telescope), "Byoinsen" (Hospital Ship), "Rakkasan" (Parachute), and "Kaigun Bakugekitai" (The Naval Bombing Corps).

To extend assistance for the promotion of Greater East Asiatic culture, a party of motion picture technicians headed by Kohei Sugiyama, of the Shochiku studio of Kyoto, will be dispatched to Manchoukuo where they will join the Manchuria Motion Picture Association to offer their labor for the promotion of the cinema industry.

As the eighth endorsement of this year, "Nankai no Hanataba" (the Bouquet of the South Seas), a dramatic film by Toho dealing with the aerial development in the southern regions, has been officially approved by the Home Ministry.

"Togo Gensui to Nippon Kaigun" (Fleet-Admiral Togo and the Japanese Navy), and "Umiwashi" (The Sea Eagles) are the titles of the culture features, which are now being released on the local screen. The former was produced by Ko-on Bunka and the latter by Geijutsu Eiga.

The Board of Information will encourage the production of the national motion pictures through the presentation of prizes. Six films to be produced by the Daiyei, Shochiku and Toho by February next year will be entitled to join the contest of the year 1942. A committee of judges to select the winners has been organized, consisting of Kokuji Kishida and Kan Kikuchi, prominent men of letters.

According to an unofficial survey, the box office returns of the leading motion picture theaters in Tokyo during the third week of May aggregated ¥53,116 with the release of two feature pictures, including "Kogen no Tsuki" (The Moon over a Plateau) and "Ishin no Kyoku" (The Song of Restoration).

"Chichi Ariki" (I Have Father), one of the latest vehicles by Shochiku, which was approved by the Education Ministry, has also been endorsed by the Government-General of Chosen and was exempted from the censorship fee.

For the release in September to celebrate Aviation Day (September 20), the Toho studio has started preparations for the production of "Tsubasa no Gaika" (The Triumphant Wings) under the support of the Aviation Headquarters and Aviation Bureau. Den Ohinata has been assigned to the title role.

"The Reconstruction Work at Shonan Island," "The Occupation of Rangoon," "The Recent Visit in Japan of the Thai Special Mission," "The Operations in the Indian Ocean," "Bombing at Ceylon," "The Sinking of the British aircraft-carrier, Hermes" and "Burmese Volunteers" will feature the overseas editions of the newsreels now being edited by the Japan Eigasha. They will be sent to the Philippines, Malaya, Burma, French Indo-China and Thailand in the near future.

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For Sale

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MANCHOUKUO TO BE BASE OF SUPPLY

Greater Production of Iron, Steel, Coal Stressed in New Five-Year Plan

SELF-SUFFICIENCY SOUGHT

Experts Believe Economic Capacity Shows Goal Possible of Attainment

Of noteworthy significance is the mission assigned to Manchoukuo as the supply base of warring Japan and for this reason strenuous efforts are now being made by the Government and industrialists in that country toward the greater production of iron and steel as well as agricultural provisions, according to the International Economic Weekly of the Domei Tsushinsha.

For the satisfactory accomplishment of this mission, however, it is urgently necessary to adjust Manchoukuo industries as soon as possible so as to make them suitable for the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia. As to this problem Rokuzo Takebe, secretary-general of the General Affairs Board of the Hsinking Government clarified the following items as the Government's wartime economic programs on January 22; namely, (1) greater production of vital commodities and the increase of their supply to Japan, (2) economizing of the consumption of materials, (3) the readjustment of the economic control machinery, and (4) the prevention of vicious inflation.

New Five-Year Plan Studied

These items are expected to be embodied in the second Five-Year Industrial Plan of Manchoukuo, which has already been drafted by the Hsinking Government and is now being studied by the Planning Board of the Tokyo Government. Importance will be attached in the new plan, to the expansion of the production of iron and steel, coal and provisions which are urgently needed in Japan, the development of hydro-electric power resources and the renovation of the manufacturing industries of daily necessities. This priority system shows a sharp contrast to the policy of the first Five-Year Industrial Plan which aimed at the improvement of the productive capacity in all lines of industries. Competent observers believe that it is not difficult to attain the goal of the new five-year plan, because it was drafted on the actual economic capacity of that country.

Iron and steel are the most important products among Manchoukuo's exports to Japan. Hitherto the goal of the iron and steel industry of that country had aimed at an autarchy for the supply of vital materials in Japan, but as a result of the onset of the hostilities with the United States and the British Empire the self-supplying sphere has been expanded to Greater East Asia. During last year one smelting furnace was constructed by the Showa Steel Works and two furnances were added to the Penhsihu Coal and Iron Company, Limited. Consequently the steel export by the Showa Steel Works to Japan was doubled last year and the Penhsihu firm will ship 50 per cent more of the material to Japan this year than last year.

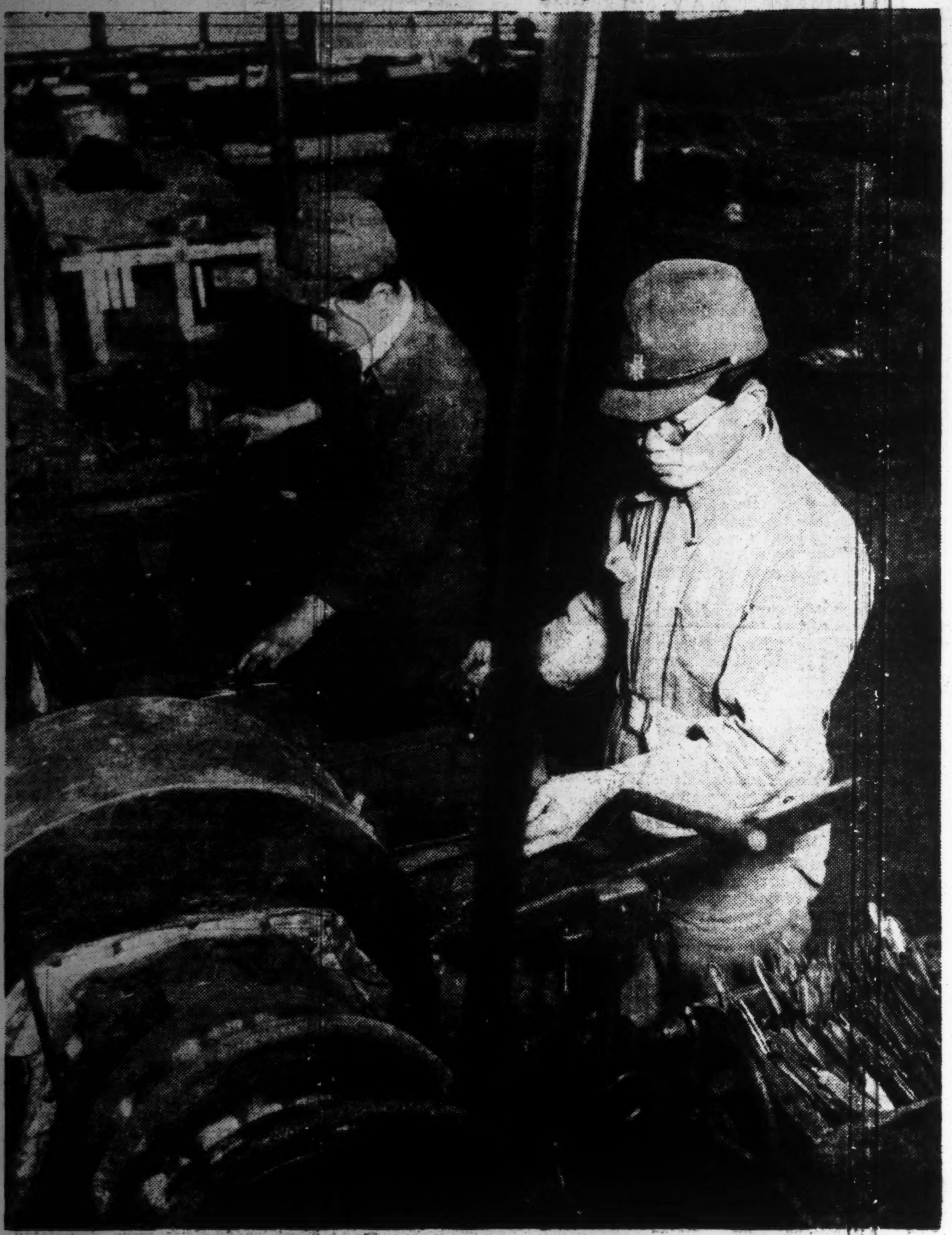
Coal Increased

In concert with the upward swing in the iron and steel output, development of coal also increased about 18 per cent last year despite various handicaps including labor shortage and the awkward demand and supply of mining machinery. No less efforts are now being directed toward the production expansion of synthetic oil which is now being demanded in Japan to an increasing degree regardless of the development of natural oil in the southwestern Pacific areas. A factory of the Manchuria Synthetic Oil Company, a subsidiary of the Mitsui and Company, will be constructed at Chinchou by the end of this year. The Kirin Synthetic Oil Company, a daughter firm of the Japan Nitrogen Fertilizer Company, will start operating in a few months. The South Manchuria Railway Company is now making preparations for the launching of the shale oil manufacturing industry with the support of the Japanese Government.

Although there are only three coal power stations on a small-scale at Hsinking, Fushun and Fuhsin, smooth progress has been made in the increase of hydro-electric power stations. The Shuifeng Hydro-electric Station situated along the Yalu River, the pride of Manchoukuo, has already started to function, while the construction of stations at Chingpohu and Sungari Rivers are expected to be completed by the end of this year. In Manchoukuo the light metal industries such as aluminum, magnesium and copper are less important than iron and coal lines. Among other branches of industries, a self-sufficiency structure has already been established in the supply of salt, ammonia sulphate, soda and electro-chemical products.

Waterways Important

Following the establishment of inseparable connections with Japan, the Government of Manchoukuo adopted the development of economic resources and the extension of communication facilities as vital national policies, which are now pursued with utmost vigor. Waterways, harbors, etc., in Manchoukuo are discussed as important parts of the communication system of the country.



For the successful and earliest possible disposal of the War of Greater East Asia, Japan's industry is now exceedingly busy in the production of as much national defense commodities as possible in accordance with the Industrial Productivity Expansion Program of the Government. The attention of the people is focussed on the upward curve in the output of wartime articles, but Japan's industrialists attach no less importance than ever to the manufacturing of peacetime goods such as knives and forks as shown in this photo.

DEFENSE MATERIALS SEEN LACKING IN U.S.

Acquisition of Black Lead Deposits Cause of Aggressive Move Against Madagascar

Saying that the occupation of Madagascar by the British and American Allied forces aims at the acquisition of enormous deposits of black lead, the Nikkan Kogyo, an industrial paper in Osaka, interprets the aggressive action by the United States as clearly showing the extent to which America, the so-called arsenal for the Democracies, runs short of vital national defense materials.

In order to turn the tide of war in the Pacific favorably to the anti-Axis Powers, frantic endeavors have been made by the United States toward the expansion of national defense industrial productivity which has been causing an ever-intensifying demand for various materials, including iron and steel and black lead. The Japanese Navy's blockade of the Indian Ocean following the success in the sea battle off Ceylon has suspended the shipment of Indian black lead to the United States and consequently aggravated the demand and supply of the mineral in that country.

A shipping bottleneck in the United States is, points out the industrial journal, also responsible for the acute shortage of black lead in the United States. Ceylon is the most important world supplier of the mineral, Madagascar running a close second. According to the statistics for the year 1938, Madagascar turned out 14,585 tons of black lead. There are also enormous mica deposits in the French colony.

The United States is also suffering from a shortage of scrap iron which President Roosevelt used to employ as his diplomatic instrument in the negotiations with the Japanese Government, allegedly considering that the anti-Japanese embargo of this material would compel Japan to give up his program for the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. The decreased supply of scrap iron has been causing the suspension of operations of an increasing number of melting furnaces, holding back the progress of the national defense forward program.

According to the statistics compiled by the National City Bank of New York, the United States put out 56,000,000 tons of pig iron and 82,000,000 tons of raw steel during last year. About 6,600,000 tons of iron and steel were exported last year at the rate of about 550,000 tons a month. This figure shows only a slight increase in comparison with 6,400,000 tons for 1917, the fourth year of the first World War, despite frantic endeavors by the Roosevelt administration to supply as much war supplies as possible to the American allies in accordance with the Lease-Lend Act.

In the World War of 1914-18, the iron and steel output of the United States continued to increase, says the Nikkan Kogyo. The production of iron moved from 44,000,000 tons for 1913 to 52,000,000 tons for 1919, and the output of steel from 2,700,000 tons for 1913 to 6,400,000 tons for 1917.

As steps to cope with the downward tendency of iron and steel production, the United States Government has recently prohibited the use of the commodities in the manufacturing of 400 articles, including automobile parts and cash-registers.

Closing Quotations Of Key Local Bonds, Stocks, Commodities

Closing prices of key local stocks commodities and bonds yesterday on the Tokyo, Yokohama, and Osaka exchange follow, in yen:

		Comp. with prev. day
Tokyo Exchange, new, short-term	136.6	+5.20
N.Y.K., new, short-term	91.2	+5.80
Kanegafuchi Spinning, new, short-term	98.2	+3.50
Government bond, Kogo 5s	107.05	Same

CASH IN TRUST INCREASES OVER ¥3,000,000,000 IN APRIL

Association Report Shows Zeal Of People to Aid in Financial Success of War

Reflecting the mounting zeal and enthusiasm of the Japanese people to assist the Government financially in the executing of the war, cash in trust at the end of April totaled ¥3,200,000,000 representing an increase of more than ¥50,000,000 as compared with the March-end figures, the Trust companies Association revealed Tuesday, according to Domei.

Securities investments by trust companies made a steady increase in April with the exception of marginal declines in Manchoukuoan Government and local Japanese bonds, the survey added.

Details follow:

Trust Company Accounts for April
(In ¥1,000)

Investments	April end	Increase over Mar., '42	Apr., '41
Assets			
Governm't bonds	381,673	2,814	48,174
Manch'kuo bonds	44,673	*1,123	9,363
Local bonds	39,110	2,442	*14,356
Debentures	698,096	6,085	215,943
Stocks	132,614	5,266	33,673
Manchoukuoan securities	123,407	1,651	38,393
Total	1,419,374	12,253	331,392
Securities trusted	515,484	15,221	*82,374
Loans	1,809,356	11,584	43,599
Securities loaned	68,978	*13,058	9,681
**Grand total	3,978,605	38,471	335,226
Liabilities			
Cash in trust	3,200,595	50,159	415,066
Securities in trust	676,161	*11,842	*85,577
**Grand total	3,978,615	38,471	335,226

Note.—The mark (*) denotes decrease. (**) includes other miscellaneous accounts.

Bill Clearings

May 20
(In ¥1,000)

	Tokyo	Osaka
Bills Cleared	259,501	162,691
Balance	36,139	16,837

POSTAL SAVINGS TOP LONG-COVETED MARK

Ceremony to Be Held to Celebrate Phenomenal Increase During Last 19 Years

Reflecting the zeal and enthusiasm of the people to help the country achieve final victory in the greatest war Japan has ever fought, postal savings deposits in Japan topped the long-coveted ¥10,000,000,000 mark on May 14 and totaled ¥10,296,000,000 as of May 20, an increase of ¥394,000,000 as compared with the corresponding figures at the close of March.

In celebration of the epochal increase of the postal savings, the Ministry of Communications will hold a special ceremony at the Imperial Hotel this morning, and those who rendered outstanding services in the postal savings increase drive will be honored.

The Ministry also will distribute throughout the country special posters with the slogan "Save and Win the War" in order to stimulate the people to save more to win the war.

It is noteworthy that postal savings increased with an unprecedented speed in the four months since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia in December last year.

The ¥1,000,000,000 jump from ¥9,000,000,000 reached in January this year to ¥10,000,000,000 took only four months as compared with the eight months required to increase the postal savings from ¥8,000,000,000 to ¥9,000,000,000.

The increase in savings in the past four months was certainly a striking contrast to previous savings drives in view of the fact that it took the Japanese people 47 years and 9 months to reach the first ¥1,000,000,000 goal in January, 1923.

It is thus noted that it took Japan only 19 years and 4 months to increase postal savings ten times from ¥1,000,000,000 to ¥10,000,000,000.

The postal savings in Japan increased at the following rate in the past 19 years:

Increase of Postal Savings in Japan

Mark reached	When reached	Time taken
¥1,000,000,000	Jan., 1923	47 years 9 months
2,000,000,000	Sept., 1929	6 years 8 months
3,000,000,000	Mar., 1935	5 years 6 months
4,000,000,000	July, 1938	3 years 4 months
5,000,000,000	July, 1939	1 year
6,000,000,000	April, 1940	9 months
7,000,000,000	Sept., 1940	5 months
8,000,000,000	May, 1941	8 months
9,000,000,000	Jan., 1942	8 months
10,000,000,000	May, 1942	4 months

Aviation Making Strides

The Manchoukuo Aviation Company which organized the first air service in Manchoukuo, continued to make quick progress. At the close of 1939, the internal air routes reached 16,070 kilometers, connecting all important towns. This represented an increase of 13,425 kilometers, compared with the 2,655 kilometers existing at the time of the company's establishment. Manchoukuo aviation is now making rapid strides.

PRICES SKYROCKET IN TOKYO EXCHANGE

Strong Buying Tendency on Osaka Stock Market Influenced Japan Wall Street

Tokyo Exchange, new, skyrocketed to a high of ¥136.60 in the short-term section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, as jobbers well-received the inaugural meeting of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association headed by General Nobuyuki Abe, former Premier. Foreign news of India's unrest is also responsible for a noticeably upward swing.

Tokyo Exchange, new, opened at ¥131.30, a drop of ¥0.20 below the closing price of Tuesday afternoon, in the morning session of the short-term market, but before long there appeared a strong bullish sentiment on the floor and the ware was quoted at ¥135.90 at 1 p.m. and an additional rise of ¥0.70 was made by the end of the afternoon session.

The atmosphere of shippings was as cheerful as that of the bourse issue both in the long-term and short-term sections. A remarkably buying tendency on the Osaka Stock Exchange is understood to have exercised a great influence on Kabutocho. In the long-term section, N.Y.K. stepped up ¥5.90, its new ¥4.00, O.S.K. ¥2.50, its new ¥2.60, Toyo Steamship ¥2.00 and Nissan Steamship ¥3.00. With a rosy tendency also pervading shipbuildings, Ishikawajima Shipbuilding was up ¥0.50, Hakodate Dock ¥0.70, and Niigata Iron Works, new, ¥0.60.

Spinnings which had been calm for days began to rise in concert with peacetime industrials. Kanegafuchi Spinning climbed ¥2.30, its new ¥2.40, Nisshin Spinning ¥1.90, Teikoku Rayon ¥1.60, its new ¥2.50, Kurashiki Silk ¥2.10 and Toyo Rayon, new, ¥2.20.

Afternoon closing prices of key wares in the short-term section are as follows: Tokyo Exchange, new, ¥136.60, N.Y.K. ¥106.50, its new ¥91.20, Kanegafuchi Spinning ¥154.90, its new ¥98.20 and Teikoku Rayon, new, ¥90.50.

Long-Term Market

Long-term market prices in yesterday's afternoon session were:

	Clos.		June	July
First Section				
Fuji Spinning (50)			65.4	65.4
Do. new (25)				36.9
Kanegafuchi Spin (50)			....	152.3
Do. new (25)			98.0	98.2
Tei'ku Rayon n (37½)	91.1	u2.5	89.0	88.6
Tokyo Rayon (50)	43.3	u1.0	42.3	42.1
Toyo Rayon, new (50)	73.0	u1.9	....	72.9
Second Section				
N. Y. K. (50)	106.0	u5.9	106.4	107.2
Do. new (37½)	89.5	u4.0	89.8	90.1
O. S. K. (50)	94.5	u1.8	....	94.2
Do. new (37½)	93.5	u1.9	94.4	....
Ishikawajima S.B. (50)	82.5	u .4	....	82.6
Do. new (25)	53.0	d .2	53.0	53.6
Uraga Dock (50)	97.9	u .5	97.7	98.6
Mitsubishi Heavy (50)	107.9	d .3	81.0	81.9
Hitachi Works (50)	74.3	u .2	74.6	75.6
Third Section				
Oriental Devel'ment	62.8	u .5	....	63.8
Japan Automobile Ind	73.3	u .2	....	74.7
Japan Nickel	49.7	u .2	50.1	50.1
Kotobuki Heavy Ind.	62.5	....	63.3	64.8
Furukawa Industry	120.0	u .9	....	119.8
Japan Carbon	89.0	u .6	....	89.4
Japan Fat	68.4	u .7	67.2	67.7
Japan Soda	37.7	u .3	37.9	38.1

Government Bonds

Government bonds spot prices yesterday afternoon were:

Kogo 5%	107.05	107.05	107.05	107.05
Second 5%	107.00	107.00	107.00	107.00
First 4%	102.95	102.95	102.95	102.95

Short-Term Market

Short-term prices yesterday afternoon were:

	Open.	High	Low	Clos.
Tokyo Stock, new	135.9	136.0	134.9	136.6
N. Y. K., old	104.5	104.8	103.8	106.5
N. Y. K., new	90.0	90.5	89.6	91.2
Kanegafuchi Spin	154.9	154.9	154.0	154.9
Do. new	97.6	97.8	96.6	98.2
Teikoku Rayon, n.	90.3	90.3	89.0	90.5
Osaka Stock, new	73.8	73.8	73.0	73.8
Japan Steel Tube	74.8	74.9	74.5	74.8
Japan Oil	78.7	79.0	78.5	78.7
S. M. Railway	71.8	71.4	71.3	71.3
Mitsubishi Heavy	109.0	109.0	108.7	108.7
Hitachi Works	74.4	74.7	74.5	74.7
Japan Mining	58.9	59.1	59.0	59.1
Manchurian Ind.	59.8	59.8	....	....

NEW PRICES GAZETTED

Revision Affects Wheat, Barley and Rye

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has decided to make a revision in the maximum prices of wheat, barley and rye, reports Domei.

The revised prices were gazetted on Wednesday and will become effective with 1942 crops.

As a result of the change, the income of farmers will increase by 70-75 sen per bale for barley, 20-25 sen for rye and 30 sen for wheat.

New prices follow:

Revised Maximum Prices of Wheat, Barley and Rye
(In Yen per bale)

	1st grade	2nd grade	3rd grade	Non-graded
Barley (45 kgs. net)	7.80	7.65	7.50	7.30
Barley (52.5 kgs. net)	9.10	8.93	8.75	8.52
Rye (60 kgs. net)	12.34	12.09	11.84	11.54
Wheat (60 kgs. net)	13.05	12.80	12.55	12.15

Despite Marked Decrease in Gold Holdings U.S. Maintains Highest Quotation in History

On the strength of information that since last year the outflow of American gold has become markedly noticeable, the latest issue of the International Economist makes an interesting survey of the gold situation in the United States, pointing out that the plethora of gold in the United States is now constituting a source of headache to the Washington authorities. Excerpts of the comment follow:

According to the announcement made in the middle of April of this year by the United States Treasury Department, the gold holdings of the United States registered a decrease of $127,000,000 since October last. The following table shows the gold holdings of the United States by months since last October:

U.S. Gold Holdings
(In unit of Million Dollars)

October 1, 1941	22.761
October 29	22.796
November 26	22.781
December 3	22.770
February 25, 1942	22.714
March 25	22.684
April 8	22.675

As will be seen from the foregoing table, the gold held in the United States as of April 8 of this year stood at $22,675,000,000 and shows a decrease of approximately $86,000,000 or $121,000,000, and while these figures do not exactly correspond with the figures announced by the United States Treasury Department, they are more or less close to them.

This reduction in the gold held by the United States has not been noticeable during the past several years. While there may be various causes for the decrease in the amount of gold held by the United States, the reduction may chiefly be accounted for by the payment of gold by the United States to South American countries for materials purchased from them as testified to by the announcement of the United States Treasury Department.

Only Earmarked

In this respect, however, we must not come to the hasty conclusion that the reduction shown in the above table means an actual outflow of gold from the United States, for instead of paying actual gold to the South American countries the United States merely earmarked it for them.

The reduction of gold to the tune of $90,000,000 or $120,000,000 is a very negligible amount as compared with the huge total amount of gold held by the United States, namely $23,000,000,000 in round figures, but it is certainly reasonable to regard it phenomenal that the accumulation of gold in the United States, which had always been on the increase, should have suddenly taken a downward tendency with $22,796,000,000, at the end of last October, as the bottom level.

As soon as this tendency appeared, there arose views to the effect that the accumulation of gold in the United States had struck the ceiling. In his connection, pointing out that the United States is largely dependent on the South and Central American countries for important raw war materials, the Economist of London commented that while it is too hasty to conclude that the inflow of gold into the United States has now begun a backwash, it is very noteworthy that the current of gold which had been flowing into the United States for the past 10 years should have begun to backflow during the past four years. The Economist further pointed out that in view of the fact that the United States has now become a belligerent country, her export trade to the free markets, especially to the Latin American countries, is bound to decrease, while her imports from them are destined to increase on account of her own requirements and those of her Allies. The trade journal further pointed out that the plentiful excess materials held by the Latin American nations until last summer have now gone as if touched by a magic wand, which bear testimony to the observation just made.

Unfavorable Trade Balance

Without waiting for the Economist to call attention to the fact, nobody will come to the hasty conclusion that the flow of gold into the United States has begun back-sliding, simply because there has been a reduction of gold to the tune of $100,000,000 out of $22,700,000,000. However, the fact that an outflow of gold has taken place in itself cannot be entirely disregarded. Why this backwash? It is natural for everybody to attribute this to an unfavorable trade balance in the United States. Then how about the facts?

According to the trade statistics issued by the United States Department of Commerce on March 4 of this year for her foreign trade in 1941 the total amount of exports reached $5,146,000,000 which is a new high since 1929 and which is an increase of over $1,100,000,000 as compared with the total amount of export of 1940, while the total amount of imports aggregated $3,345,000,000 which is also an increase of as much as $700,000,000 as compared with the figure of 1940, but the excess of exports over imports reached as high as $1,800,000,000.

Lease-Lend Payment

With these figures before us one cannot by any stretch of imagination be led to believe that the trade balance of the United States became unfavorable during last year. However, there are two aspects of the situation which should not be overlooked one of which is the huge amount of exports that are being made under the Lease-Lend Act. In other words, the large export figures include the amount of exports payment which is postponed to a certain future date.

While exact figures are unavailable, it is almost certain that during the period of one year since March 11 of last year approximately $2,500,000,000 worth of war materials were shipped out under the Lease-Lend Act, and if these figures are taken into account, the foreign trade of the United States in 1941 might have shown an unfavorable balance.

Another important phase of the situation is the fact that foreign trade by the United States with certain regions, especially with the Latin-American countries, has turned into excess of imports over exports, as testified to by the United States Treasury Department. The United States Department of Commerce announced on March 19 of this year the trade returns with the South and Central American countries for the year 1941, but these returns do not show the figures for import and export but only the trade balance. According to this announcement, the trade balance of the United States with the 20 South and Central American countries in 1941 proved to be unfavorable to the extent of $106,000,000 instead of an excess of exports over imports to the tune of $63,000,000 of 1940, in addition to which the amount of imports from the same sources against cash payment in gold in the same year aggregated $113,000,000.

Foreign Trade Statistics

The following tabulation shows the foreign trade of the United States with principal countries of the South and Central Americas in 1940 and 1941 as published by the United States Department of Commerce:—

	1940	1941
	(In unit of $1,000,000—Asterisks show decrease)	
Argentina	23	57*
Brazil	5*	36*
Chile	21*	54*
Uruguay	6*	21*
Bolivia	2*	15*
Peru	4	8
Panama	15	30
Colombia	4	12

As stated above, in addition to the $113,000,000 already paid spot cash in gold, the United States has an excess of imports over exports to the extent of $106,000,000, and if one takes into consideration the inevitable tendency of the United States' purchases of war materials from the Latin-American countries increasing in the future, one can be fully warranted in taking it for granted that the amount of gold in the United States is bound to follow a downward trend.

The gold which has played the role of the standard of settlement of international payments during the past scores of years cannot lose its value all at once. However, gold has already lost its function as the standard of value which it previously had. For instance, Germany's Minister of Economic Affairs, Dr. Walther Funk, said that gold no longer acts as the standard of value of the mark and that the value of the mark can be interpreted only in terms of labor and production. On the other hand, in view of the fact that Germany acquired a fairly large amount of gold bullion in the occupied territories, it is unthinkable that Germany will treat it in the light of a white elephant, and Dr. Walther Funk did not say that he meant to disuse gold entirely. Especially, the United States that has been placing faith in gold can not be expected to cast it off like a worn-out boot, nor can she be expected to consider at once the value of gold as finished.

The amount of gold held by the world aggregates in terms of American Dollars 26,000,000,000, of which the United States holds $22,600,000,000 or nearly 90 per cent of the entire gold of the world. For this reason, it would be only natural for the United States to boast of the value of gold to the world and to do everything possible in her power to check the depreciation of gold. For, if the day should come when gold is dumped on Wall Street, that would mean the complete collapse of American economy.

What measures then has America been taking to maintain the value and function of gold? One of the chief factors why gold is still maintained as an instrument for settlement of international payments is the fact that the United States is maintaining the gold quotation of $35 per ounce, which is the highest level in the history of gold.

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TOKYO. THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1942

Peoples of East Asia

The scheme announced on Tuesday of creating an institute for research on race problems is of quite timely interest. The object of the proposed establishment is to conduct research with regard to all racial entities that are embraced within the Co-Prosperity Sphere of East Asia, and to obtain comprehensive knowledge of the peculiar conditions in which their interests are to be served. The ambitious character of the undertaking and the extensive range of life and area over which it extends necessarily call for a plan on a scale commensurate with the magnitude of problems involved.

The proposed institute for research on racial phases of East Asia is to be placed in operation in July. A sum of ¥600,000 is already provided under the initial budget for the current year as a preliminary step. On Tuesday met in council a number of men who had responded to the official invitation. From these men a committee of 29 men was appointed and charged with the work of organizing an institution along the proposed lines. This committee is composed of representatives of the services, the Ministries of Education and Finance, the Planning Board, and a number of authorities on history, economics, sociology, psychology, languages.

The main work of the proposed establishment is to engage in research work on the different racial elements of East Asia, with regard to characteristics, manners and customs, religion, economics, laws, languages, climatic conditions. This work is to be and carried on under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Education. Its status will be akin to those of the National Spiritual Culture Research Institute, Fine Arts Research Institute, Material Resources Scientific Research Institute, etc.

The magnitude of the proposed undertaking is shown by the fact that the racial units within the Co-Prosperity Sphere of East Asia are said to be 108 in number. The languages and dialects within the same area must be as numerous if not more. Manners and customs to be brought within the purview of attention must form almost bewildering varieties.

The primary object of the present proposal is to collect information on those subjects so as to compile "ledger books" of East Asian races, as it is officially explained. The need of such information is now keenly felt now that Japan has been thrown into contact with various peoples in different quarters of East Asia. Such information is particularly required where Japan is called upon to replace the Anglo-Saxons as administrator of civil affairs, religion, economics and justice. The leadership and other responsibilities assumed by this country with regard to others of East Asia impose on her the urgent duty of acquiring an enlightened view of the field with which she is to deal.

The experience Japan gained in Manchoukuo must serve as a useful guide for many lines of research in the south and elsewhere. Information in all instances should be regarded as a foundation for close racial accord and appreciation. The application of such knowledge should be made to the practical end, in the first place, of guiding all peoples along the path of mutual cooperation, and, in the second place, of leading them to a new outlook of hope on life and work. In a sense, studies on racial phases of East Asia, from the standpoint of Japan as its leader, will form the most important section of the groundwork on which the forthcoming edifice of co-prosperity must stand.

From this consideration those who conduct researches on those lines must not confine their attention to histories, traditions, manners and customs of racial groups. It would clearly be insufficient to look back only to what has gone before in the histories of races. Their eyes must turn ahead, down the vista that is opening before them with the unfolding of the drama such as East Asia has never seen in its history.

The Voice of an Authority

Sven Hedin, Swedish explorer and dean of all authorities on Central Asia, adds his voice to those who proclaim that Chungking's days are done. With Burma completely under the control of the Japanese, and with the Japanese Army already actually pushing in over the Burma Road far into the interior of China Proper, there is no route left by which Chungking can receive supplies from the outside world. Without such outside aid, Chungking's position is hopeless.

There is only one route by which Chungking can hope to maintain contact with the outside route, and that is the historic Silk Road, according to the Swedish authority. All possible routes from Russia or Iran feed eventually into the Silk Road. As for the main Silk Road, the section lying within Russian Turkestan from Krasnovodsk on the Caspian Sea to Kashgar just within Chinese Turkestan has been kept in good repair by the Soviet authorities so that motor traffic is possible. But the section running through Chinese territory from Kashgar to Lanchow, the capital of Kansu Province, remains as primitive as it was 2,000 years ago when it was first built. "It is not a road worthy of name, but a mere path through the desert," the explorer says.

At present, only camels can traverse the route. Motor traffic on any considerable scale is impossible. It might be possible to repair the road to make it usable for motor traffic, but it would be a gigantic task which would be impossible to undertake for some time to come. Then, even after the completion of the repairs, there would be the virtually impossible problem of stocking adequate stores of gasoline all along the route. The conclusion is, therefore, that the Silk Road is for all practical purposes completely valueless.

Another possible route runs from Novosibirsk by way of Semiparachensk to Urumchi, where it connects with a variation of the Silk Road, but inasmuch as the Silk Road is useless, this route likewise has no value. As for the routes from the Persian Gulf, these are also mere feeder routes into the Silk Road. One of them runs from Iran through Afghanistan, then over the Hindu Kush Mountains to Kashgar on the Silk Road. The other follows much the same route save that it crosses over the Karakorum Mountains to reach Kashgar. Both are moreover mere mule trails.

"Thus," concludes Dr. Hedin, "there is no road, existing or conceivable, which can take the place of the Burma Road which has now been completely cut off by the Japanese Forces." He should know, for among all the great explorers of the world who have made the inaccessible regions of the Asiatic continent their special subject of study, he is by far the greatest. As between the glib and irresponsible pronouncements of President Roosevelt who says that he will find a way to deliver aid to Chungking, and the considered declaration of Sven Hedin who says it can't be done, there can be no question as to which carries the weight of authority.

The Meteorology of India

The great peninsula of India, with its lofty mountain ranges behind and its extensive seaboard exposed to the first violence of the winds of two oceans, forms an exceptionally valuable field for the study of metorological phenomena.

From the gorge of the Indus to that of the Brahmaputra, a distance of 1,400 m., the Himalayas form an unbroken watershed. The average elevation of the Himalaya crest may be taken at not less than 19,000 ft., and therefore equal to the height of the lower half of the atmosphere; and indeed few of the passes are under 16,000 or 17,000 ft. Across this mountain barrier there appears to be a constant flow of air, more active in the day time than at night, northward to the arid plateau of Tibet.

At the foot of the great mountain barrier, and separating it from the more ancient land which now forms the highlands of the peninsula, a broad plain, for the most part alluvial, stretches from sea to sea. In the mid-west of this plain is a dry region occupied partly by the alluvial deposits of the Indus and its tributaries and the saline swamps of Cutch, partly by the rolling sands and rocky surface of the desert of Jaisalmer and Bikaner, and the more fertile tracts to the eastward watered by the Luni. Over the greater part of this region rain is of rare occurrence; and not infrequently more than a year passes without a drop falling on the parched surface. On its eastern margin, however, in the neighborhood of the Aravalli hills, and again in the northern Punjab, rain is more frequent, occurring both in the south-west monsoon and also at the opposite season in the cold weather.

The peninsula area of India, cut off from the encircling ranges by the broad Indo-Gangetic plain, is divided into two unequal parts by the Vindhyas, an amalgam of several hill systems running almost continuously across the country from west by south to east by north, just south of the Tropic of Cancer. The waters to the north of this watershed drain chiefly into the Nerbudda and the Ganges, those to the south into the Tapti, the Mahanadi, the Godavari and some smaller streams. Together with the two parallel valleys of the Nerbudda and Tapti, which drain the flanks of its western half, this mass of hills gives, at opposite seasons of the year, a decided easterly and westerly direction to the winds of this part of India, and condenses a tolerably copious rainfall during the south-west monsoon.

CALMNESS, HIGH MORALE MARK LIFE OF JAPANESE IN WARTIME

Foreign Resident Impressed With Remarkable Discipline and Capacity for Tolerance of People

By ALFRED LUECKENHAUS

Spring is back again in Tokyo after an unusually severe winter, at least if measured by the standards of Nippon's moderate climate, and our little garden in Kojimachi-ku, as gay as the season permits, is wearing its most colorful dress, traditionally keeping in step with the ladies' changing kimonos.

Not disturbed by the breath taking events that followed the publication of the Imperial Rescript on December 8 last, an atmosphere of surprising tranquility has continued to reign ever since, not only enveloping this delightful spot, next door to the now isolated British Embassy, but all the rest of the country as well. Indeed, hardly anything would give an imaginary newcomer from abroad the impression of Japan being right in the middle of her gigantic struggle for the emancipation of Eastern Asia.

Calm Determination

There is no saber rattling or any mental intoxication over a series of undoubtedly amazing victories, nor is there any visible sign of jingoism or undue excitement. Calm determination is the key-note in these days, and to any foreign observer it is not even a deliberate one. Japan is warring in a dignified way, so to speak. It is not an atmosphere in which hooligans or super-patriotic hotheads would chop off American cherry trees, if there were any, or in which helpless enemy nationals would have to run the gauntlet. If, however, Japan were forced some day to apply stricter measures against enemy interests, it would solely be in retaliation of certain inhuman or illegal acts committed or caused by Roosevelt's America or by notorious slanderers like Churchill and Eden. A number of self imposed rules on maritime warfare has already been discarded, because the Anglo-Saxon Powers insisted on ignoring both the London Declaration and International Law as based on precedent.

But no matter how unscrupulous or barbarous the conduct of the common enemy may have been, it has not upset the discipline of the Japanese people. As a matter of fact, we know of only one case of popular outburst. It was directed against the Peruvian Legation where a few broken window panes were the only damage caused. We suspect that it was a case of personal vengeance, because ever since the outbreak of war, we have not seen or heard of any hostile demonstration against any Embassy or Legation of any of the countries with whom Japan is in a state of war or semi-war. The truth is that the citizens of Japan completely ignore these buildings. They don't even look at them as we have occasion to witness four times a day while passing the compound of the British Embassy.

Every Japanese child knows by now that it was the insatiable greed of the Anglo-Saxon Powers which forces Japan to take to arms in self defense, and it is this knowledge which gives the people of these otherwise so volcanic islands their calm determination and their strength to continue fighting in close cooperation with Japan's Axis partners until victory is achieved. The behavior of this people is beyond reproach.

Visit to Hibiya Park

If you can spare a few minutes for a refreshing walk through Hibiya Park right in the heart of this big and industrious city, you will see, as in former days, smaller or larger crowds of civilians, thinly sprinkled with soldiers, admiring the latest products of horticultural science. Around the tennis courts, you can watch hard hitting tennis players enjoying a fast game, while in some quiet corner you will probably notice some artist painting or sketching a group of those peculiarly shaped domestic trees in full blossom. Perhaps the only thing in these peaceful surroundings to remind you of the war is a huge map hung up on a structure near the recreation field showing the various theaters of war and explaining in detail the progress the Imperial Forces are making.

Another thing that strikes you in war-time Japan is an almost complete absence of men in uniform. Of course, there has been a recent addition: air-raid wardens—male and female ones—in very neat and highly practical uniforms, but apart from this, mufti is supreme. Not that it means that Japan's manpower were in any way exhausted. On the contrary, you would be astonished at the very large number of young men in military age still donned with civilian clothes, people engaged in important work at home in all the various branches of a nation at war. And besides, by the Law of Mobilization, all the students are exempted from military service, and there must be hundreds of thousands of them. No, there is one thing Japan need not fear, i.e. shortage of manpower.

Contrary to the Anglo-Saxon conception of warfare, business is not "as usual" (as the British once proudly boasted after the outbreak of another war), because Japan, like her European Axis partners, believes that if you have to fight for survival everything has to be subordinated to your war-effort. Thanks to constant British and American interference in the China conflict, Japan is now reaping the fruits of five years war-time experience, and after December 8 very few measures were necessary to add to those already existing. Gasoline, for instance, had been rationed long before the outbreak of the Eastern Asiatic War, and consequently motorcar traffic in Japan underwent no restrictions when the hour came to pay back. There are always plenty of taxicabs about to take you to almost any place you like unless you indulge in parties lasting into the small hours of the morning.

Morale Is High

In short, Japan has stood the initial test in splendid fashion. The civilian morale is high, so high in fact that the authorities on one or two occasions had to admonish the public not to take everything for granted, but to prepare for the possibility of a long drawn-out affair with more sacrifices ahead for rich and poor alike.

While the steady supply of food—entirely independent from imports from abroad, if you exclude Taiwan and Chosen, and on a basis of complete self-sufficiency—is secured, production of essentials for the prosecution of war is running smoothly. The rapid advance of the Imperial Forces, however, has created one new problem, because after the complete disappearance of foreign shipping from Eastern Asiatic waters, it is now entirely up to Japan to supply the means of transportation for routes many thousand miles long. To cope with this new situation, Japan is preparing a shipbuilding program spreading over a number of years and eventually aiming at a commercial fleet totaling fifteen million tons, an ambitious but by no means impossible plan.

In the Periodicals

Zasshi Nippon, Vol. 1, No. 5, May, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Tairiku Kodan-sha, Tokyo. Price 50 sen. Feature articles: Japanese Thought and the Spirit of the Founding of the Empire by Ryu Saito; A Study on Anglo-Americanism by Michimasa Royama; the Spirit of the Members of the Special Attack Flotilla by Saneatsu Mushakoji; Conception of the Second Period Operations by Major Shozo Nakajima; Youth and Politics by Takanobu Murofushi; Definite Plans of the Increased Production of Foodstuffs by Sozaburo Yoko-o; the Mission of Industrial Workers by Fukuji Kakuwa, and A War Diary at the Fighting Front of Burma by Masao Wakasugi.

Jikyoku Zasshi, Vol. 1, No. 5, May, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Kaizo-sha, Tokyo. Price 50 sen. Feature articles: Victors' Reconsideration by Shigeomi Nomura; Method of Financial Renovation by Nisaburo Kito; Reform of Life by Hyoji Sugawara; Future Problem of the Co-Prosperity Sphere in Southern Regions by Susumu Ichiji; Highlights on a Round-Table Conference of Air Raid and Air Defense; Diary of Internment at Timor by Tatsuhiko Kawabuchi; New French Premier, Laval by Tsurumatsu Okamoto; Eve of the Fall of Singapore; Impression of a Talk of a Staff Officer on the Malay Operations by Major Takashi Hiragushi, and Informations on Modern India

Italia; a monthly magazine, Vol. 2, No. 5, May, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Italia no Tomonokai, Tokyo. Price 40 sen. The leading articles: Fascism and National Socialism by Ryuzo Yoneya; Italy's Agricultural Policy by Osamu Nakamura; the Great Achievement of the Japanese Army in Southern Regions; the Fall of Singapore; Mohammedanism in the East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere by Kozo Harada; Temples in Italy by Takaho Itagaki, and Italian Fascist Guild Parliament System by Risaburo Fukazawa.

Gaiko Hyoron, Vol. 22, No. 5, May, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Nippon Kokusai Kyokai, Tokyo. Price 40 sen. Feature articles: The War of Greater East Asia and Management of Enemy Assets by Professor Zengo Ohira; Observation on the Defeat of Colonial Policy of America, Britain and Dutch by Masao Matsuoka; The Position of the Powers in the Present World War by Kenji Ishii; The Co-Prosperity Sphere and Cultural Works by Dr. Sanzo Tsurumi; Trials on Responsibility for France's Defeat by Shisui Shigenori; Life of the U. S. President by Hiroshi Ashino; The Pope and Diplomacy by Shiro Kuniyeda; The Present Phase of Financial Condition of America; Cripps' Visit to India, and Central and South America After the Rio de Janeiro Conference.

Shufu no Tomo, Vol. 26, No 6, June, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Shufu no Tomo-sha, Tokyo. Price 50 sen. Feature articles: A Report of the Navy Hospital, Mothers of the Poor in China and the East Indies, A Report Accompanying a Naval Landing Party, Advices for Men and Wives in a Long-Term War, A Battle Diary of A Seaplane Tender, Wartime Household Economy, and the Life of the Japanese Women.

Fujin Koron, June, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Chuo Koronsha, Tokyo. Price 50 sen. The leading articles: Training of Words and Training of Character, The Tradition and Renovation of Culture, Observation of the International Situation, A Report of the Visit to the Naval Academy, and War and Currency.

Gaiko (Diplomacy); a publication issued three times a month, No. 520 dated May 11, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Gaiko Shimbun-sha, Tokyo. The leading articles: Progress of the Operations in Burma, Japan's General Election and America, Germany's Spring Offensive and the New Phase of War, and the Attitude of France.

Synopsis of
CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE LITERATURE

ROTAKI HANA (Elegant Flower)
1933

By YOICHI NAKAGAWA

When evening came an evil gang gathered from all directions at the Ginza. As the street lights grew brighter in the deepening dusk, they awoke from the torpor of their daytime sleep and gradually assumed a lively, animated aspect.

As Maki was walking along with a boy friend Mineo, a group from this gang suddenly appeared upon the scene and surrounded the two. They were taken into a dark stone-paved alley, and one of the group said: "Get this into your head, you two—you're a couple of conceited puppies to be gallivanting together like this all the time."

It was a case of a "hold-up."

"But we haven't any money." Curiously enough, Maki plucked up courage as she said this, checking Mineo with her eyes as he was about to hand out money to them and leave the spot in a hurry.

"Then, come here—you."

Thereupon Maki made a sharp retort.

"Don't get me wrong, please. Any gang that doesn't know me hereabouts amounts to a bogus one, you know."

At this the four young scoundrels, moved by some thought or other, suddenly became docile. "What's your name, then?"

"Ask Kasai. Kasai knows me well," exclaimed Maki with an air of pride and defiance.

Gang Apologizes

Upon hearing this the gang straightened their hats and promptly released the two amid humble apologies.

The long and short of it was that she had put the gang to rout by utilizing the name of her acquaintance Kasai, a "tough boy" of Ginza.

A few days later Mineo was introduced by her to Kasai himself. A man proficient in Esperanto and with whom Maki had become acquainted at a summer resort, Kasai was no ordinary bad man but one possessed of a strong character. The two accompanied him to a tea-room. Here came the gang that had threatened them.

Kasai rebuked this gang on Maki's account, and the three left the place. Shimada, one of the gang, kept recalling as though in a dream the beautiful, well formed features of Maki, who had been there before him all this while.

Beautiful Woman

Shimada had a friend called Murakami. He told Murakami about a "noble, elegant, beautiful" woman, such as he had never seen before. And gradually he began to love this lovely Maki, who was really exceedingly wise and a woman of decision; and by availing himself of every possible opportunity he commenced to get close to her.

Gradually Shimada's net of intrigue spread around the surroundings of Maki and Mineo. Mineo was taken out somewhere by the man's confederates and subjected to a slanderous attack in which it was made to appear that Maki had entered into a new love affair with Shimada. Hearing Shimada's own acknowledgment to this effect, Mineo went to Maki, pale and distraught, and demanded bitterly whether or not there was truth in the allegation.

"Do you believe it?" Maki said. "I myself have heard something about you, but I don't pay any attention to such things."

For a moment Mineo felt that he was being surrounded by the evil gang and abruptly struck her in order to hide this feeling. Maki, her lips tightly compressed, accepted the blow in silence. Then she said calmly: "Try and do it again." He struck her again, intending meanwhile to recover his composure. But she glared at him, saying: "You're a coward. Aren't you? I hate cowards."

Severs Ties

With these words Maki severed her ties with him then and there, and left him.

Summer came round. Maki, hating as she did Shimada's cowardly scheme, invited out the latter's friend Murakami and led a camp life with him. This, however, was undoubtedly an act of downright betrayal on the part of Murakami against Shimada, according to the moral code of their gang. Due to this affair the two men, together with their respective adherents, regarded each other with such hostility that blood was likely to flow at any moment.

The quarrel beween Shimada and Murakami was patched up through Kasai's good offices. Nevertheless, Murakami could not get Maki out of his thoughts. He held forever in his possession Maki's last letter to him. Let us both, it said, sever the past and return to our respective tasks.

Story Interpreted

This work is ranked with Gorufu (Golf) by the same author as his masterpiece. Written especially against the background of a world wherein dark crimes are a frequent occurrence and which constitute one phase of the Ginza, the brilliant amusement quarter of Tokyo, its heroine is a wise and cultivated young woman. Though she loves many men, she retains the elements of her character and her purity till the very last. For this reason she is at one time regarded as an enchantress, and at another time as a selfish, haughty woman. It is all due, however, to the fact that she is too loyal to her own conscience and even demands too much of others to respect it.—(K.B.S.)

READERS IN COUNCIL

Illegal Attack

To the Editor:

The recent attack on the island of Madagascar was a gross violation of international law. Upon no grounds could the British Government justify its attack on the island as there was no state of war existing between France and Great Britain. The attack could not be termed a reprisal for France had given the British no reason for such an action under international law.

It is curious to recall in the light of the present-day events that during the 19th century Madagascar was a bone of contention between the British and the French, the former using violent and treacherous means to oust the French from the island.

In the latter part of the 17th and during most of the 18th century the French attempted to establish military posts on the east coast but early in the 19th century all their positions on the mainland were relinquished, and they retained nothing but the island of St. Marie on the east coast. In 1811 Tamatave had been occupied by British troops, and the Treaty of Paris of 1814 recognized as British the "French settlements in Madagascar," but as a matter of fact France had then no settlements on the mainland. The then Governor of Mauritius, Sir Robert Farquhar, tried to prosecute British claims and obtained a session of Diego Suarez Bay. He was not, however, backed up in London.

Progress Begins

The political history of the island as a whole may be said to date from the reign of the native king Radama I (1810-1828). He had new ideas. He made a treaty with the Governor of Mauritius to abolish the export of slaves, he received every year in compensation a subsidy of arms and ammunition, as well as English training for his troops. As a result he established his authority over most of the island. In 1820 Christian teaching was begun in the capital by the London Missionary Society, and by its missionaries the Malagasy language was put in writing, and the art of printing introduced; books were prepared, the Scriptures were translated, and numerous schools establish. Knowledge of many of the useful arts was also imparted, and many valuable natural productions were discovered.

Cruel Queen

The promising prospects were, however, upset by the death of the King at the early age of 36, and the seizure of supreme power by one of his wives, the Princess Ranavalona. This able but cruel and fiery tempered woman hated the new ideas that were gaining power among her people and with the idea of completely destroying them she gradually instituted a reign of terror. In 1835 the profession of the Christian religion was prohibited and all religious books were ordered to be given up to the Government. By the middle of 1836 all the English missionaries were obliged to leave Madagascar, and for 25 years the most strenuous efforts were made by the Queen and her Ministers to suppress all opposition to her commands. Hundreds of Malagasy converts suffered death in its most hideous forms, rather than abandon the Christian faith, and thousands were fined, imprisoned, or sold into slavery. Eventually all Europeans were excluded, and foreign commerce practically ceased. Matters were made worse by a joint Anglo-French military expedition against Tamatave in 1846 which proved a disastrous failure.

The tyranny was only brought to a close by the death of the Queen in 1861 and the accession of her son, Radama II. The new King reopened the country to European trade and missionary efforts were recommenced. Unfortunately, however, the King gave his car to French and other foreign adventurers, fell into a life of vice and folly, and in 1863 was put to death in his palace. His wife was put on the throne and reigned successfully for five years as Queen Rasoherina. She was succeeded by her cousin, Queen Ranavalona II who proved an enlightened sovereign. The Government aspired to have Madagascar recognized as an independent, civilized State, and Consuls appointed by the British, French and American Governments were accredited to the Malagasy sovereign, the Queen having a Consul in England, and a Consular agent in Mauritius.

Anglo-French Rivalry

On the initiative of Lord Clarendon, then British Foreign Secretary, an understanding was reached between the British and French Governments by which it was agreed that each Power should respect the independence of Madagascar. Unfortunately Anglo-French rivalry revived and in 1883 an ultimatum was sent by the French to the Malagasy Queen. On its rejection, the French fleet bombarded Tamatave and a desultory war followed. By a treaty signed on December 17, 1885, it was agreed that the foreign relations of Madagascar should be directed by France, that a French Resident should live at the capital, and that Diego Suarez should be ceded to France. There was considerable British opposition and the missionaries, in particular, resented the new order of things. Trouble broke out again after a few years and in the period 1894-96 the country was conquered by French troops and the last Malagasy sovereign, Queen Ranavalona III, was exiled to Reunion, and subsequently to Algeria.

The pacification of Madagascar was undertaken with great success by General Gallieni, whose firm and vigorous administration, and desire to treat the Malagasy justly and kindly, won for him the affection of the people. He retired in 1905 and since then steady progress has been reported throughout the island.

K. N.

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JAPAN YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Loyalty

By SANTARO
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Part V

There is a tragi-comic humor in the account of how Matsudaira Nobutsuna died, but it admits of no question of doubt as to his loyal heart having remained steadfast to the last moment. Nobutsuna, foremost Minister in the Tokugawa Shogunate at one time, was noted for his extraordinary sagacity, nicknamed "Chiye-Idzu," (Idzu the wise) after his title, Lord of Idzu. When he fell ill, and knew his end was near at hand, he had all the official papers in his possession collected in one receptacle, and instructed his son that they should be burned as soon as he died and that the ashes be put in his coffin to be buried with him. As he lay worsening every hour, he asked of an attendant:

"If I kept saying the nenbutsu (well-known formula of Buddhist prayer), should I go to paradise after death?"

"There is no doubt about it, my Lord," the man replied. "At least that is what most people seem to believe."

As the last moment drew nearer, Nobutsuno in a painful voice asked, "I have heard it said that if a man died thinking intensely about something, that thought would remain with him after death. Is that true?"

"That must be true, my Lord, as everyone says it is," replied the retainer.

"All my life," the patient went on, "my only care in the world has been about 'Go-hoko' (honorable service to the Shogunate), and now I am dying, I must keep up this thought, and carry it into the next world. . ."—and his voice trailed off into inaudible mutter. The attendants putting their ears close to the patient's lips could make out he was mumbling, "Go-hoko—Go-hoko."

Passes Away

In the lucid interval occurring just before death, Nobutsuna suddenly opened his eyes and asked this naive question, "Is there in the world such a thing as 'yurei' (the soul of a dead man haunting the earth)?" Receiving an affirmative answer the dying man nodded as he said, "Then I will turn into a ghost and continue haunting the world to guard our Lord's welfare," and then closed his eyes for ever.

You might say that a man like Nobutsuna who enjoyed great office and honors in the Shogunate Court might well swear loyalty forever, but that the same standard might not be applied to all persons. Would you advise a man to return the gift of a shabby paper lantern with a great temple bell? But loyalty, as already said, is a spiritual commodity whose value is not to be computed in terms of profit and loss. You can hardly expect them to appreciate such doctrine as "Shu-ju Sanze" (master-servant relation to last for three generations of life). It means that the faithful servant serves his master not only during his lifetime but for the time of two lives to come. This idea was perhaps the outcome of blending between Bushido, Buddhist doctrine of eternal circle of life and the actual fact that many an old retainer does serve three generations of the ruler, which, by the way, is true of most of the so-called "Jushin" (veteran statesmen) of our day.

Payment of Services

In the ultimate analysis loyalty may prove to be the payment for service rendered, but the value of such service depends more on the minds of those who have received it than on anything else. Where there is no gratitude or piety there can be no acknowledgment of benefit, still less loyalty. An old paper-lantern may indeed be bought for a few pence in the thieves' market, but if it guided safely a way-worn traveler through the valley of the shadow of death, even a great bell contributed to the temple afterward might not be thought an adequate enough expression of his thanks.

It may be protested that where the master is a bad man, as it may sometimes happen, or indeed it has often happened, his servants are bound with no tie of obligation. Such is the argument of sons of commerce. Instances there are, too many to cite, of loyal men who have given their all, their lives, for their bad masters, misguided lords, or those who had treated them wrongly or unjustly. Indeed it may even be said that true loyalty can happen only where the master has been bad or unjust. Just as you can repay your benefactor best when he is down under fortune's wheels, so does your loyalty most truly shine if it is shown in the darkest hour of adversity when it is least likely to be rewarded. Hirade Masahide, after having advised his young erratic master, Nobunaga, many times in vain, gave at last his last "death-advice"; that is, he committed harakiri after inditing to him a solemn message of expostulation—an act of loyalty which Nobunaga best appreciated when he was older and wiser in the world.

(End)

Efficacy of Prayer

"You's a fool. Prayers is always answered."

"Nigger, I'm a-tellin you—"

"Don't contradick me. Only, you gotter know de right thing to pray fer."

"How you mean, de right things?"

"Listen to me. When I prays de Good Lawd to sen' me a turkey, do He answer my Prayer? Lawd, no; He's too busy to pesticate wid lazy coons. But when I pray de Lawd to send me atter a turkey—nigger, dat prayer never fail yet!"